

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP**

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at 8:00 PM in the Springfield Township Building for the purpose of transacting the general business of the Township. All members of the Board were present. Mr. Harbison presided.

Mr. Harbison asked everyone to join the Board of Commissioners in a moment of silence honoring the service men and women who have placed themselves in harm's way in order to help preserve our safety.

Mr. Harbison led the pledge of allegiance.

Motion (Schaum-Gillies) carried unanimously dispensing with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and approving same as written and recorded in the official minute book of the Township.

Mr. Harbison recognized two boy scouts in the audience. Those boy scouts were Jesse Schlosser and Bill Gries. Both boys were representing boy scout troop #1 of Oreland.

Chris McShane, 502 Drayton Road, expressed his disappointment with the condition in which Aqua PA left the roadways in his neighborhood after they completed their water main replacement project. Mr. McShane was informed that the Board of Commissioners is already reviewing roads where Aqua PA has completed work over the past two years and will determine if the Township will perform any road work in these areas.

Richard Metz, 910 Bent Lane, requested that the Board of Commissioners consider making the draft riparian corridor ordinance effective with day one improvements within the corridor. Mr. Metz recognized the responsibility of those property owners who live in the corridor and suggested that, as a compromise, the buffers be reduced, the plant sizes be reduced, and perhaps phase-in the planting requirements within the corridor. He expressed his appreciation for education, but believes that voluntary compliance with preservation of the riparian corridor signals that the Township does not find the corridor preservation important. He also suggested that perhaps the Township could help with the plant availability and the costs associated with improvements to the corridor. In conclusion, he asked that the final draft of the riparian corridor ordinance not be a "green wash", which is providing an appearance of making an environmental improvement without any substance.

Mr. Harbison indicated that the Board of Commissioners has continued to work on the draft ordinance and may consider reverting back to a draft that was first seen last Fall. This would place the requirements within the Zoning Ordinance which would make

it more difficult for waivers to the requirements of the riparian corridor. Having said that however, the next draft may soften the requirements in the corridor, but broaden the actual application of the ordinance. The new draft may center on larger properties with tougher regulations. The Board of Commissioners will continue to consider education as a means by which to improve the riparian corridor and may call on the Township Environmental Advisory Commission for assistance.

Mara Baird, 7709 Elm Street, also wished to address the Board on the draft riparian corridor conservation ordinance. She suggested that the Township is blessed with natural resources and thanked the Board for its interest in reviewing the watersheds throughout the Township. She noted that there are approximately ten miles of streams throughout the Township, and five miles of those streams, run through high density housing. "Day One" legislation is important to provide a commitment to protect all the areas adjacent to these streams.

Mr. Harbison, Chairman of Internal Affairs and Environmental Resources Committee, reported:

Motion (Harbison-Gillies) carried unanimously to approve the March check reconciliation in the amount of \$635,623.58 and the April bill listing in the amount of \$415,851.91.

Mr. Harbison announced that during the month of March, Springfield Township residents recycled 172.5 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 78.1%. The net cost for the month was \$1,262.98.

Motion (Harbison-Schaum) carried unanimously to authorize a letter be sent to Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz asking that she support the efforts of the United States Environmental Protection Agency as it remediates the property owned by the Tank Car Corporation on Walnut Avenue, Oreland. For residents interested in understanding the details of the efforts of the US EPA at the Tank Car Corporation, the EPA has established a website at www.epaosc.org/tcca.

Mr. Schaum, Co-Chairman of Public Safety Committee, reported:

Motion (Schaum-Gillies) carried unanimously to waive the prohibition of the use of fireworks in Springfield Township as set forth in Section 3301 of the Springfield Township Fire Prevention Code as it relates to the request of the Wyndmoor Hose Company to sponsor a fireworks display at the Township-owned Veterans Park on Saturday, June 13, 2009. The waiver of the Fire Prevention Code and use of Township property is conditioned upon the host organization and the fireworks professional adding Springfield Township as an additional insured on their certificate of insurance, and working closely with the Fire Marshal to help prevent an accident with regard to these activities.

Motion (Schaum-Peirce) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1202, a resolution proclaiming Saturday, April 25, 2009 as Arbor Day in Springfield Township. The Board urged all Township residents to join the Township Shade Tree Commission in celebrating Arbor Day by supporting efforts to plant new trees or protect existing trees and woodlands.

Mr. Gillies, Chairman of Library Committee, reported:

Mr. Gillies noted that April 13 through 17, 2009 is National Library Week. He also announced that April 15, is National Library Workers Day and the Springfield Township Library plans events on that day to celebrate the contributions of the employees of the Library.

Mr. Standish, Chairman of Public Works and Facilities Committee, had no report.

Ms. Peirce, Chairwoman of Communications and Cultural Resources Committee, reported:

Ms. Peirce announced that the Board of Commissioners will receive a formal presentation of the status of the Cresheim Trail at the May 13, 2009 business meeting. The Cresheim Trail is proposed by an informal group of individuals interested in constructing a trail from the Chestnut Hill section of Philadelphia through Wyndmoor, Laverock and portions of Flourtown to join with the Fort Washington Park in Flourtown.

Mr. Dailey, Chairman of Zoning Committee, reported:

Mr. Dailey noted that the Board of Commissioners authorized the Township Engineer to begin design work for the Oreland Mill Road drainage project. The Township has now acquired all the necessary properties to make the storm drainage improvements and is working towards securing the final right of way under the St. Philip in the Fields Church parking lot.

With regard to the riparian corridor conservation district ordinance, Mr. Dailey stated that he has received several positive comments from constituents in his ward who own smaller properties that may have been affected by regulations in the riparian corridor ordinance, and the constituents wished to express their appreciation for the Board's concern for smaller properties.

Mr. Dailey announced that the Zoning Hearing Board would next meet on Monday evening, April 20, 2009, at 7:00 PM in the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Dailey summarized the Zoning Hearing Board Agenda.

Motion (Dailey-Schaum) carried unanimously to authorize the office of the Township Solicitor to appear at all future Zoning Hearing Board meetings in opposition to the Giuliani petition requesting permission to operate a bus terminus

at 50 Oreland Mill Road, Oreland. In addition, the Solicitor's office shall join the Township staff at any future enforcement proceedings in the office of the local district justice as it relates to violations of the Subdivision of Land ordinances of Springfield Township related to the Giuliani property, 50 Oreland Mill Road, Oreland.

Mr. Heller, Chairman of Community Development Committee, reported:

Motion (Heller-Gillies) carried unanimously to accept letters dated February 9, 2009 and March 26, 2009 from Robert Gundlach, Esq., representing the Hartranft family, extending the 90 day subdivision and land development review period without limitation as to time related to the subdivision and land development owned by the Hartranfts at 350 Haws Lane, Flourtown.

Motion (Heller-Peirce) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1201, a resolution authorizing the execution of two maintenance agreements for Springfield Township to maintain two decorative pavement markings associated with the Flourtown-Erdenheim Community Gateways Project. The two decorative pavement markings are proposed on Bethlehem Pike near Cisco Park and on East Mill Road at Penn Oak Road.

Motion (Heller-Peirce) carried unanimously to authorize a letter be sent to the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission wherein the Township will outline the interest of Springfield Township in accepting technical planning assistance from the DVRPC related to DVRPC conducting a synchro-analysis for possible traffic taming methods slated for Bethlehem Pike. Mr. Heller explained what a synchro-analysis would accomplish.

Motion (Heller-Gillies) carried unanimously to authorize the Township staff to secure a price quotation from Michael Baker Jr. Engineers, of Horsham, PA, for Baker to provide construction inspection services for the Bethlehem Pike streetscape improvement project. Based upon the quotations provided by Baker, the Board of Commissioners may, in the future, consider engaging Baker for the construction inspection services.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Donald E. Berger, Jr.
Secretary

DEB:cmt
4/22/09