

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

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, 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 in attendance 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-Peirce) 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 welcomed Sean Kilkenny, who was recently appointed Township Solicitor at the organization meeting. Mr. Harbison made note of Mr. Kilkenny's recent military service.

Judith Pattituci, 101 E. Wissahickon Avenue, addressed the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Pattituci suggested that all residents should be better stewards of our community. She also looks forward to the improvements at St. Genevieve's Church, and wished to thank all who were working to make those improvements.

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

Motion (Harbison-Schaum) carried unanimously to approve the December check reconciliation in the amount of \$2,818,466.13 and the January bill listing in the amount of \$895,841.38.

Mr. Harbison reported that during the month of December, Springfield Township residents recycled 277.7 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 69%. The net cost savings and income for the month was \$6,651.21.

Mr. Harbison also announced that in December, the Board of Commissioners approved entering into an agreement with RecycleBank Inc. to provide a coupon incentive program for Springfield residents. The Board asked that the agreement not be signed until it was placed in a form satisfactory to the Township Solicitor. Mr. Harbison announced that the Agreement was signed earlier in the evening.

Mr. Harbison reviewed the Committee Assignments for the upcoming year. In summary, there were no changes with the exception that Mr. Schaum would be the sole chair of the Public Safety Committee.

Mr. Gillies asked for a moment to discuss the fees to be charged by the Township Solicitor for subdivision and land development review. Mr. Gillies read from Section 503 (1) of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, and summarized his belief that the Solicitor was required to charge the developer the same rate that he would normally charge the Township. Mr. Kilkenny suggested that he did not necessarily agree with that interpretation, but offered to charge the Township and the developer \$135 per hour for that work. Mr. Dailey asked for a clarification for the fees to be charged for regular Township business, litigation and work on developments. Mr. Kilkenny reviewed his proposal and specified fees to be charged for the variety of work performed.

Mr. Schaum, Chairman, Public Safety Committee, had no report.

Mr. Gillies, Chairman of Library Committee, had no report.

Mr. Gillies asked if the Board of Commissioners would consider writing to our locally elected Federal representatives asking that they be mindful that the national health insurance program may pass costs onto Township employees, and the employees, in turn, may ask the Township to cover those expenses. Mr. Gillies noted that the Township and Township employees have worked cooperatively regarding total employee compensation and benefits, including health care insurance. After a short discussion, the Board agreed to table the discussion until February.

Mr. Standish, Chairman, Public Works and Facilities Committee, reported:

Mr. Standish announced that on March 18, 2010, between 5:30 PM and 7:30 PM, the Board of Commissioners is hosting an open house to provide an opportunity for Township residents to address the Board of Commissioners and staff on existing stormwater management concerns within the community. Mr. Standish made comment on stormwater management improvements being a priority in Springfield Township, and indicated that priority continues into 2010 with several stormwater improvement projects scheduled for completion. Mr. Standish went on to explain the process by which residents and the Commissioners will exchange information at the open house, including the use of maps and the web page.

Ms. Peirce, Chwmn., Communications and Cultural Resources Committee, had no report.

Mr. Dailey, Chairman of Zoning Committee, reported:

Mr. Dailey announced that the Zoning Hearing Board would next meet on Monday, January 25, 2010 at 7:00 PM in the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Dailey summarized the Zoning Hearing Board Agenda.

Mr. Dailey expressed his disappointment with a recent comment in the newspaper that discussions related to the appointment of the Township Solicitor involved political partisanship. He appreciated being a part of the selection subcommittee and was looking to appoint the best solicitor available. Furthermore, two of the three individuals he put forth for appointment are known to be democratically affiliated.

Mr. Standish agreed with Mr. Dailey but he did not sense partisanship during the selection process.

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

Motion (Heller-Schaum) carried unanimously that in compliance with Section 512 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, the Board of Commissioners waived the formal land development review process for the proposed renovation project of St. Genevieve Church, Bethlehem Pike, Flourtown. The subject of the renovations includes three minor building additions to accommodate a new altar, new font, new covered main entrance and a modification to the existing parking lot. The waiver of the formal land development review process is subject to the improvements being completed consistent with plans entitled "Land Development Waiver Request Plan" dated December 3, 2009, last revised December 23, 2009. The waiver is also conditioned upon the Church complying with the conditions set forth in a letter dated January 6, 2010 from the Springfield Township Planning Commission to the Township Manager.

Motion (Heller-Peirce) to amend the Springfield Township Code Section 107-28, Schedule V, Stop Intersections, by establishing a four way stop intersection at the intersection of Chesney Lane, Glendalough Road and Longfield Road.

Mr. Schaum asked the following questions: (1) did the safety officer recommend the multi way stop intersection; answer – no, (2) are PennDOT warrants met for establishing a multi way stop intersection; answer – no, (3) did the Township hire a traffic engineer to review any special conditions at the intersection that might warrant the stop signs; answer – no, and (4) was crash data available that would indicate the need for a four way stop intersection; answer – no.

Mr. Heller opined that the multi way stop intersection was needed because many years previous, the stop signs were switched from Glendalough Road and Longfield Road to Chesney lane. Ms. Peirce suggested there might be a sight distance issue which the additional stop sign might resolve.

Mr. Heller and Ms. Peirce agreed to withdraw the motion and the matter could be discussed at a future meeting.

John Alviti and Malcolm Gran, representing the School Board of Directors, addressed the Board of Commissioners and noted that the School Board began to examine the 2010-2011 School District budget. Specific dates when the budget will be available will be announced, but the budget will also be made available on the School District website. The School Board members expressed interest in having a dialog on taxation between the Township and School District.

Mr. Gillies asked what the purpose is of past school board member, Peter Amuso, being hired to review stormwater issues on a property located directly adjacent to school district property. Mr. Alviti indicated that Mr. Amuso was hired to represent the School Board due to a conflict between their Solicitor and the next door property owner. In conclusion, the gentlemen noted that School Board members plan to attend future meetings of the Board of Commissioners and invited the Township Board of Commissioners to attend their meetings.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald E. Berger, Jr.  
Secretary

DEB:cmt  
1/19/10