

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

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, November 13, 2013 at 8:10 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. Gillies presided.

Mr. Gillies announced that the Board was a little delayed in commencing the meeting as an executive session was held just prior to the meeting to discuss two legal matters.

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

Mr. Gillies 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. Gillies congratulated Commissioners Dailey and Harbison on their re-election to the Board of Commissioners and to Peter Wilson on his election to represent the residents in ward 4.

Correspondence:

At the end of October, the Board of Commissioners received a letter from William Spalding, of Cheltenham Avenue, who outlined his concerns with the Board of Commissioners becoming involved in the potential construction of a sanitary sewer system that may serve Mr. Spalding and six other residents who live along Caroline Drive. In his letter, Mr. Spalding outlined his understanding of the interest of the Caroline Drive residents in the construction of the sewer and indicated his desire that he and his neighbor, Mr. Whitlock, not be included in the project. In conclusion, Mr. Spalding opined that the construction of the sanitary sewer system is unjustified and that the Board of Commissioners should not be involved in the project.

Mr. Gillies recognized Patrick Corrigan, a boy scout with troop 304. Mr. Corrigan indicated that he is a student at LaSalle College High School and was at the meeting to observe the activities at a Township meeting in conjunction with a merit badge.

Genie McClintock, 17 Brookside Road, addressed the Board of Commissioners and expressed her understanding that previously the Board of Commissioners had applied for a grant to help fund stormwater improvements to the benefit of Brookside Road. However, the grant did not get approved. She inquired whether other grants might be available. She also noted that efforts are being made to meet with neighbors adjacent to what has been

known as the Carlisle Road detention basin. She inquired whether the project had been designed and included in the 2014 budget. She was informed that until there is a better understanding of the concerns of the affected neighbors, the project will not be designed, and therefore, cannot be budgeted. Finally, she noted her understanding that the Township plans to meet with a property owner in association with the Montgomery Avenue/Terminal Avenue stormwater project.

Bob Galdo, 8519 Patton Road, presented a copy of a letter that he and others in his neighborhood received regarding the sanitary sewer project on Caroline Drive. Mr. Galdo expressed his dissatisfaction in receiving the letter, but asked for additional information with regard to the project. Mr. Gillies indicated that the office of the Township Engineer is in the process of researching the specifics of the project including minimizing the disruption of the area affected by the project. Mr. Galdo was encouraged to review the sketch plans that are available in the Township Building.

Michael and Anna Nero, 616 Haws Lane, addressed the Board of Commissioners and requested a status report on a project to stabilize the creek adjacent to their property. Mr. Gillies indicated that the State is continuing to review the status of other projects within the State and has not yet prioritized projects eligible for funding. He also noted that to the extent the State does not fund the project, the Township would reconsider the earlier stream stabilization project discussed with the Neros.

Mary Graham, 7910 Cheltenham Avenue, indicated that her next door neighbor is keeping chickens in such a manner that the smell is offensive to her. She has worked with the Township and is now working with the District Justice in order to address the keeping of the chickens. Mr. Standish noted that several years ago, the Township considered a similar situation involving the keeping of horses in Flourtown, and after a great deal of study, it was decided that the Township would get involved if, indeed, a nuisance was created. Mr. Berger also reviewed for those present the actions of the Code Enforcement and Police Departments with regard to the immediate situation. Neither of these departments found the conditions to be a nuisance.

Mr. Gillies, Chairman of Internal Affairs Committee, reported:

Motion (Gillies-Schaum) carried unanimously to approve the October check reconciliation in the amount of \$1,140,245.90 and the November bill listing in the amount of \$593,993.84.

An announcement was made regarding the budget meeting schedule through the adoption of the 2014 budget:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Budget Hearing	12/11/13	8:00 PM
Budget Adoption	12/18/13	8:00 PM

All meetings will be held in the Springfield Township Building.

The 2014 Budget was presented as follows:

The 2014 Budget includes a balanced operating budget of \$17,427,956, with a real estate tax rate of 3.584 mills and an earned income tax rate of 1.0%. The impact on the typical taxpayer as a result of the 2014 budget projections is that the taxpayer will not realize an increase in the real estate tax rate, but there will be an increase in the sanitary sewer rental and a decrease in the refuse service fee. The real estate tax rate will be set at 3.584 mills. The discounted sanitary sewer rental for each 1000 gallons of wastewater treated is set at \$5.51, and the discounted refuse service fee is \$189.51. The proposed 2014 budget will be available for inspection in the office of the Township Manager and in the Township Library beginning 12:00 noon, November 15, 2013.

Motion (Gillies-Schaum) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1309, a resolution establishing the final Minimum Municipal Obligation for the three Township pension plans for the year 2014. Resolution No. 1309 shall supersede Resolution No. 1305, which established the estimated 2014 Minimum Municipal Obligations for 2014.

Mr. Schaum, Chairman of Public Works and Safety Committees, reported:

Motion (Schaum-Dailey) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1310, a resolution authorizing the execution of two agreements of sale to acquire 410 and 502 Hemlock Road, Flourtown, through the use of funds from the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Settlement for both properties has been scheduled for November 14, 2013.

Motion (Schaum-Standish) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1311, a resolution indicating the non-binding support from Springfield Township of an authority or consortium to manage the solid waste in Montgomery County and the intent of Springfield Township to continue to participate in the disposal of solid waste through the use of an Authority or Consortium.

Mr. Standish, Chairman of Human Resources Committee, had no report.

Ms. Peirce, Chairwoman of Library Committee, had no report.

Mr. Dailey, Chairman of Zoning Committee, reported:

Mr. Dailey announced that the Zoning Hearing Board will next meet on Monday, December 2, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the Springfield Township Building. He drew attention to the fact that this meeting had been rescheduled from the normal fourth Monday of the

month due to scheduling conflicts of the Board members. Mr. Dailey summarized the two matters before the Zoning Hearing Board, including the fact that the Board would be rendering their decision with regard to the application involving 9425 Stenton Avenue.

Mr. Harbison, Chairman of Cultural Resource Committee, reported:

Mr. Harbison announced that during the month of October, Springfield Township residents recycled 238.1 tons of materials with a household participation rate of 83.2%. The net cost for the month was \$5,339.45.

Mr. Bell, Chairman of Community Development Committee, had no report.

Terry Johnson, 219 Roesch Avenue, presented the Board with several photographs of the property next to her at 223 Roesch Avenue which houses a building renovation business. Ms. Johnson indicated her understanding that the business is a subcontractor for Lowes and as depicted in the photographs, scrapped equipment is stored on the property in question. Ms. Johnson also noted that on several occasions, Commissioner Schaum helped have the property cleaned up, but the problem continues to return. She noted that most other businesses in the area are generally better kept than the property in question.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Donald E. Berger, Jr.
Secretary