

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

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, December 11, 2013 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, with the exception of Mr. Bell. Mr. Gillies presided.

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-Standish) 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 announced that Mr. Bell was not in attendance due to personal business.

Mr. Gillies noted that at the close of the regular monthly business meeting, the Board of Commissioners would conduct a public hearing to receive detailed information on a rezoning request for a portion of the Tecce tract, 9303 Ridge Pike. The owners of the Tecce tract are requesting consideration be given to rezoning a portion of their property from the existing zoning to the Institutional zoning district. The property owners are also requesting amendments to the Institutional zoning regulations.

State Representative Steven McCarter thanked the Board of Commissioners for their service to the Township, and stated his wishes to present a Citation from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives honoring the service of Alison McGrath Peirce as a Springfield Township Commissioner upon her retirement. Rep. McCarter read aloud the Citation which summarized committee assignments of Ms. Peirce for the Board of Commissioners, noted her eight years of service and her accomplishment of setting outstanding goals, and the achievement of those goals. Ms. Peirce thanked Rep. McCarter for the Citation and stated that when she takes the opportunity to look back on her service with Springfield Township she will do so with great admiration. She enjoyed the humor, complexity and challenges of the position. Ms. Peirce also thanked members of the Board of Commissioners for their support and service.

Judy Patitucci, 101 E. Wissahickon Avenue, addressed the Board of Commissioners and also thanked Alison Peirce for her service to the Springfield Township community.

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

Motion (Gillies-Schaum) carried unanimously to approve the November check reconciliation in the amount of \$899,121.51 and the December bill listing in the amount of \$2,288,183.82.

Mr. Gillies announced that later in the meeting, the Board of Commissioners would be conducting a public hearing to accept public comment on the preliminary 2014 budget as was presented at the November 13, 2013 meeting of the Board of Commissioners. On December 18, 2013, the Board of Commissioners will conduct a special meeting to close out the business of the year 2013 and adopt the 2014 budget. The December 18, 2013 meeting is scheduled for 8:00 PM in the Springfield Township building.

Motion (Gillies-Peirce) carried unanimously to enact Ordinance No. 925, an ordinance establishing the intent of the Board of Commissioners to issue a general obligation note in the amount of \$1,500,000. Mr. Gillies summarized the ordinance that specifies that the debt to be incurred by the Township is to finance a specific capital project which consists of the demolition and reconstruction of the East Mill Road bridge, landscaping on certain properties affected by the demolition and reconstruction of the bridge, and the payment of the costs and expenses of issuing the note. The Township also pledges its full faith credit and taxing power for the timely payment of the debt service. The ordinance assures the purchaser that the note is a “qualified tax exempt obligation” and the Township is authorized to file documents with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for their approval of the occurrence of the debt consistent with the laws of the Commonwealth. The key features of the loan include: (1) value - \$1,500,000, (2) term – 20 years, (3) interest rate – 3.16% fixed, (4) no prepayment penalty, (5) legal fees/legal costs range from \$5,500 to \$7,500.

Motion (Gillies-Schaum) carried to adopt Resolution No. 1312, a resolution declaring the intent of the Township to be reimbursed expenditures for the East Mill Road bridge reconstruction project from the general obligation note. The reimbursement relates to expenditures on the project that occurred no more than 60 days prior to the adoption of the subject resolution, as well as the reimbursement of qualified preliminary expenditures up to 20% of the general obligation note of \$1,500,000.

Mr. Gillies announced that the 2014 organization meeting will be held on Monday, January 6, 2014 at 7:00 PM. The meeting will begin with the oath of office being administered to any re-elected or newly elected officials, and will progress through the evening with the election of the President of the Board of Commissioners, Vice President, and appointments of various township officers and the financial institution of the Township.

An announcement was made that the meeting schedule for the Board of Commissioners and all other boards, commissions and committees of the Township for calendar year 2014 will remain the same as the 2013 schedule. Copies of the schedule are available at the Township Building and on the Township website. The meeting schedule of the Board of Commissioners was reviewed.

The Board of Commissioners convened the 2014 Budget Hearing and conducted same.

The Board of Commissioners reconvened the monthly business meeting.

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

Mr. Schaum announced that during a snow storm, without any fanfare, and approximately one month ahead of schedule, the East Mill Road bridge was opened to traffic on December 10. While the bridge is open to traffic, it is not 100% complete as final landscaping and a faux stone finish will be applied to the concrete walls in the Spring of 2014. The Board of Commissioners thanked the community for their patience during the road closure, the immediate neighbors for their cooperation, and Buckley and Company, the bridge contractor.

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 would not meet during the month of December. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Zoning Hearing Board will be Monday, January 27, 2014 at 7:00 PM in the Springfield Township Building.

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

Mr. Harbison announced that during the month of November, Springfield Township residents recycled 194.6 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 75.4%. The net cost for the month was \$8,698.95.

Motion (Harbison-Peirce) carried unanimously to accept a letter dated November 14, 2013 from Vivianne Englund-Callahan resigning her position as a member of the Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission. Ms. Englund-Callahan joined the EAC in 2011 and was a valued participant on the Commission. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Mr. Harbison thanked Ms. Englund-Callahan for her service to the Springfield Township community.

An announcement was made that there is now a vacancy on the Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission. Mr. Harbison reviewed the responsibilities of the EAC and noted the Commission typically meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Residents interested in serving on the Commission were asked to send a letter of interest or resume to the Board of Commissioners.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald E. Berger, Jr.
Secretary

DEB:cmt
12/24/13