

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP**

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in public hearing on Wednesday, February 12, 2014 at 8:20 PM in the Springfield Township Building for the purpose of receiving public comment and to consider for adoption an update to the Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan in its entirety. The subject Comprehensive Plan is entitled "Comprehensive Plan: Vision for 2025".

Mr. Dailey announced that the public hearing was being held in compliance with Section 302 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code to receive public comment and consider for adoption an update to the Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan in its entirety. Mr. Dailey noted that the legal requirements associated with the legal with adopting the Comprehensive Plan had been met by the Springfield Township Planning Commission holding a public meeting on October 15, and the Township Manager's office soliciting comments from the Montgomery County Planning Commission, the governing bodies of contiguous municipalities, the local School District and the Pennsylvania Center for Local Government Services. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the Springfield Sun issues of January 19 and 26, 2014. Public Notices were posted in the Township Building and Library.

Mr. Dailey stated that the proposed update had been written and recommended by the Springfield Township Planning Commission in concert with the planning assistance from the Montgomery County Planning Commission. In addition to numerous meetings of the Township Planning Commission on this matter, a detailed public review by the Board of Commissioners took place at the public meeting of July 10, 2013.

Mr. Schaum presented a summary of the Comprehensive Plan which provides an overview vision for the community and serves as a guide for Township leaders as they make land use policy decisions. It provides a framework for the zoning ordinance, subdivision and land development ordinance, subdivision and land development reviews, planning for capital improvements to municipal facilities, parks, and infrastructure, as well as redevelopment programs. The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code authorizes and guides local planning by outlining the required elements of the Comprehensive Plan. The required elements include, but are not limited to, provisions for land use, housing, transportation, community facilities, historic and natural resource protections, goals and objectives, long and short term implementation strategies, and compatibility with neighboring municipalities.

As a means of background, Mr. Schaum noted that Springfield Township's first comprehensive plan was adopted in 1968 during a period when much of the Township was developed and its identity as a suburban residential community was established. When the plan was updated in 1998, it was during a time when Springfield Township was more concerned with improving upon the existing conditions than shaping future growth. With the 2013 comprehensive plan update, the Township considers existing conditions as

well as changes in its population, land use, and the built environment that have occurred since the last update, exploring other emerging trends and critical issues. Mr. Schaum read into the record the nine goals set by the Comprehensive Plan as well as the eight categories for future considerations.

Mr. Dailey called on individual commissioners who wished to make comment on the Comprehensive Plan or the proceedings.

Mr. Gillies thanked the Planning Commissions for their hard work in producing the update.

Mr. Wilson inquired as to the percentage of the County participation vs. the Township Planning Commission participation. Mr. Wilson was informed that the two planning commissions worked together on the plan.

Mr. Bell noted his pleasure in participating with the Planning Commissions during the formation of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Board of Commissioners reconvened the public meeting of February 12, 2014 in order to consider a vote to adopt the 2013 Comprehensive Plan Update.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Donald E. Berger, Jr.
Secretary