

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

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, May 11, 2022, at 7:30 PM at the Springfield Township Building for the purpose of transacting the general business of the Township. The meeting was also offered in a live streaming feature. Mr. Lee announced that the video would be made available on the Township's website beginning Thursday, May 12, 2022. All members of the Board were present, with the exception of Messrs. Graham and Cobb. Mr. Lee presided.

Mr. Lee 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 at home and abroad.

Mr. Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion (Wilson-Maxwell) vote 5-0, 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. Lee noted the absence of Commissioners Graham and Cobb.

Mr. Lee announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session as part of their May 9, 2022 workshop meeting to discuss one personnel item, two real estate matters, and one item of litigation. Mr. Lee also announced that the Board met immediately prior to this evening's meeting in order to continue discussions on a real estate matter.

Mr. Lee opened the meeting to public comment.

Rachel Dailey, Haws Lane, addressed the Board regarding the Harston Woods property. Ms. Dailey asked that the Board consider the positive impacts of trees on children and the community as a whole.

James Marlin, Commander of Arthur V. Savage American Legion Post, addressed the Board regarding the annual Memorial Day parade and celebration sponsored by the Post. Mr. Marlin requested the Board to grant permission for the Post to utilize Veterans Park for the annual community day celebration following the Memorial Day Parade, and for permission to serve beer at the event. Mr. Marlin stated that if the Post is given permission to use Veterans Park and to serve beer, they are prepared to meet all conditions imposed by the Board in previous years. In conclusion, Mr. Marlin apologized for not placing the request in writing in a timely fashion as he has always done in the past.

Linda Furlong, Roesch Avenue, addressed the Board to inform them that while walking her dog yesterday she observed a dead rat. Mr. Lee stated that the Township and County are

working cooperatively to address the presence of rodents in various sections of the Oreland neighborhood. The County has identified areas of active rat burrows and sent letters to those homeowners asking them to contract with an exterminator. Mr. Taylor provided advice on how to prevent rodents from being attracted to one's property.

Mr. Lee, Chairman of Public Safety Committee, had no report.

Mr. Lee announced that there was no report of the Cultural Resources Committee.

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

Mr. Standish reported on behalf of Mr. Cobb, Chairman of the Administrative, Fiscal Affairs and Zoning Committee:

Motion (Standish-Wilson) vote 5-0 to approve the April check reconciliation in the amount of \$823,461.86, and the May bill listing in the amount of \$511,143.15.

Mr. Standish announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board would meet on Monday, May 23, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Standish summarized the Zoning Hearing Board Agenda, and announced that copies of the applications are on file in the Code Enforcement Office and may be viewed during normal business hours.

Mr. Standish announced that at the March 29, 2022 meeting of the Zoning Hearing Board of Springfield Township, the Board granted variances to 1110 Willow Grove Avenue, LLC, in order to construct 12 townhomes on properties located at 1108-1110 Willow Grove Avenue, Wyndmoor. On April 28, 2022, the Board of Commissioners was notified that the decision of the Zoning Hearing Board was appealed, and the Board finds it in the best interest of the Township to intervene in the appeal to defend the decision of the Zoning Hearing Board.

Motion (Standish-Ratsavong) vote 5-0 to authorize the office of the Township Solicitor to intervene in the land use appeal to defend the decision of the Zoning Hearing Board for the properties located at 1108-1110 Willow Grove Avenue.

Mr. Lee asked Mr. Garrity to explain the Township's involvement. Mr. Garrity suggested that the developer will prepare a brief in the matter and Mr. Garrity will prepare to join the brief on behalf of the Board.

Mr. Wilson, Chairman of Cultural and Environmental Resources Committee, reported:

Mr. Wilson announced that during the month of April 2022, Springfield Township residents recycled 164.2 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 63.2%. The net cost for the month was \$14,606.63.

Mr. Wilson announced that on Sunday, May 15, 2022, the Friends of Hillcrest Pond will be conducting their annual Family Fun Day Fishing Clinic at Hillcrest Pond. Mr. Wilson described the planned activities of the day and encouraged everyone to attend.

Mr. Wilson announced that on Saturday, May 21, the Township Environmental Advisory Commission will be conducting a native plant sale at the Township Library from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM. The plants will be sold at cost.

Mr. Maxwell, Chairman of Public Works and Facilities Committee, reported:

Mr. Maxwell announced that on Thursday, May 26, 2022, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation will conduct a presentation to the Springfield Township community to provide an overview of a Federally-funded Highway Safety Improvement Program project on Bethlehem Pike from Stenton Avenue in Springfield Township, to Sunnybrook Road in Whitemarsh Township. The project includes the full-depth milling and resurfacing of the roadway, the conversion of Bethlehem Pike from a four-lane roadway to a three-lane roadway with a two-way center left turn lane, modification to traffic signal phasing and timing, and the upgrade of traffic and pedestrian signal equipment. The meeting will be conducted at the Springfield Township Administration Building beginning at 7 PM.

Mr. Maxwell announced that at the May 9, 2022 meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Board heard from several members of the Springfield Township community who continue to advocate for the preservation of the property located at 380-402 Haws Lane for open space and environmental purposes. Mr. Maxwell announced that the Board continues to discuss the possible acquisition and/or condemnation of all or a portion of the subject property, and plans to continue discussions in this regard over the next month.

Ms. Ratsavong, Chair of Parks and Recreation Resources Committee, reported:

Motion (Ratsavong-Wilson) vote 5-0 to reappoint Neil DiFranco and Sara Hughes to new, three year terms of service as members of the Springfield Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee. The new three-year terms of service shall expire May 12, 2025.

Motion (Ratsavong-Wilson) vote 5-0 to adopt Resolution No. 1570, a resolution authorizing an application to be submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program for Phase II of the Walnut Avenue Trail Project. The estimated cost of the project is \$350,000 for which the Township is requesting \$250,000.

Motion (Ratsavong-Wilson) vote 5-0 to grant permission to the Arthur V. Savage American Legion Post of Wyndmoor to utilize Veterans Park for a community day event following the annual Memorial Day Parade, and to serve beer at the park as part of the

event. The permission is granted subject to the following conditions: (1) the American Legion Post secures a permit for the use of the park, (2) the American Legion Post hires a police detail to be at the park while beer is served, and (3) the American Legion Post secures an insurance rider for the day's events naming Springfield Township as an additional insured.

Ms. Ratsavong announced that Memorial Day 2022 will be observed on Monday, May 30. The parade will begin at 9:30 AM on Willow Grove Avenue near Traymore Avenue. The Community Day festivities will be held from approximately 11:30 AM to 4 PM.

Mr. Marlin wished to clarify that the parade starts at Elm Avenue and the community day celebration has been adjusted to be held from Noon to 3:00 PM.

Ms. Ratsavong thanked Mr. Marlin for his military service and for organizing the parade and community day celebration for many years.

Motion (Standish-Maxwell) vote 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor
Secretary/Manager