

MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in a regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, July 9, 2025 at 7:30 PM in 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. All members of the Board were present except Commissioner Morris. Commissioner Lee presided.

Mr. Lee asked Mr. Taylor if any remote public comments were received prior to the meeting. Mr. Taylor reported that no public comments were received.

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 overseas.

Mr. Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion (Wilson-McNamara) vote 6-0 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 announced that it is with a heavy heart and great sadness that the Board of Commissioners announces the sudden passing of James J. Garrity, Esquire. Jim has served as the Springfield Township Solicitor for the last 13 years and previously served in the same capacity from 1998 to 2005. At the time of his passing, Jim also served as the solicitor for Lower Salford Township and was widely recognized as an expert in municipal government and land use law. The Board extends its heartfelt condolences to Jim's wife Rosemary and his three children, as well as his many friends and colleagues.

Mr. Lee announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session prior to this evening's business meeting to discuss one pending litigation matter.

Mr. Lee announced that on Thursday, June 19, 2025 at approximately 5 PM, a strong cold front accompanied by high winds and heavy rainfall caused widespread power outages, flooding and property damage from fallen trees and utility poles across southeastern Montgomery County. Immediately after the storm passed, Public Works employees were called into service to clear heavy debris from public roadways and to ensure that all streets were safe and passable. Over the next several days, Public Works employees worked through extreme heat and other difficult conditions to assist residents with the disposal of spoiled food, yard waste and to perform regular refuse and recycling services. The Board of Commissioners would like to thank and commend the members of the Public Works Department for their efforts in response to these extreme weather conditions. The Board also extends its thanks to the Springfield Township Police Department and fire and ambulance personnel for their storm related efforts.

Mr. Lee invited Asher Dahlgren to join Commissioner Ratsavong at the front of the room. Ms. Ratsavong read into record Resolution No. 1670, recognizing Asher Dahlgren for his service as the first student-representative to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee. Ms. Ratsavong commended Asher for his perfect attendance and invaluable contributions to the committee.

Motion (Ratsavong/May) vote 6-0 to adopt Resolution No. 1670.

Mr. Lee opened the meeting to public comment. No public comments were received.

Mr. Lee, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, reported:

Motion (Lee-McNamara) vote 6-0 to reappoint Aimee Samtmann to a new six-year term of service as a member of the Police Civil Service Commission. Mrs. Samtmann's new term of service shall expire July 16, 2031.

Mr. Wilson, Chairman of the Community Development Committee, reported:

Mr. Wilson announced that on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, as part of its regular monthly business meeting, the Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township will conduct a Public Hearing on and could vote to adopt an ordinance to amend the Code of the Township of Springfield, Chapter 114, Zoning, to add a new Article entitled "Small Wireless Communications Facilities" to regulate the placement of small wireless communication facilities in Springfield Township. In summary, the proposed Ordinance sets forth its purpose, provides for a definition of terms, identifies permitted uses and application requirements, standards and requirements for small wireless facilities within the public rights of way, violations and penalties.

Copies of the full text of the proposed ordinance are available for examination during normal business hours at the offices of Montgomery Newspapers, the Montgomery County Law Library, the Office of the Township Manager, the Free Library of Springfield Township and the Township website www.springfieldmontco.org.

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

Motion (Cobb-May) vote 6-0 to approve the June check reconciliation in the amount of \$510,220.86 and the July bill listing in the amount of \$787,135.74.

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Monday, July 28, 2025 in the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb summarized three Zoning Hearing Board petitions and announced that copies of the applications and plans are on file in the Code Enforcement Office and may be viewed during normal business hours.

Ms. Ratsavong, Chairwoman of the Parks and Recreational Resources Committee, reported:

Since 1985, July has been celebrated as the nation's official Parks & Recreation month. The Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society honors the men and women with careers in parks and recreation throughout the state on Parks & Recreation Professionals Day. This celebration is held annually on the third Friday in July.

Motion (Ratsavong-May) vote 6-0 to adopt Resolution No. 1671, a resolution proclaiming Friday, July 18, 2025 as National Parks & Recreation Professional's Day in Springfield Township.

To celebrate National Parks & Recreation Professionals Day, the Springfield Township Parks & Recreation Department will conduct a live children's concert at Cisco Park on Friday, July 18 at 10 AM featuring "Music with Gina."

Ms. Ratsavong announced that a vacancy exists as a student representative on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. Interested students were encouraged to send an application or letter of interest through the Township website or to the attention of the Township Manager.

Mr. May, Chairman of the Environmental Resources Committee, reported:

Mr. May announced that during the month of June 2025, Springfield Township residents recycled 157.0 tons of material with a householder participation rate of 77.5%. The net cost for the month was \$20,520.67.

Mr. May reminded residents that electronic waste is not suitable for collection by the Township and explained that in 2010, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania passed the "Covered Device Recycling Act," prohibiting the disposal of electronic waste in landfills and waste-to-steam plants. Electronic waste includes computers, televisions, monitors, keyboards, printers and similar devices. Small household electric and kitchen appliances are also unable to be collected. Residents were encouraged to reference the Township website for appropriate disposal facilities for these and other household items.

Ms. McNamara, Chairwoman of the Public Works and Facilities Committee, reported:

Motion (McNamara-May) vote 6-0 to reappoint Ann Breen and Edward "Ted" Bell to new three-year terms of service as members of the Springfield Township Shade Tree Commission. Ms. Breen and Mr. Bell's new terms of service shall expire July 13, 2028.

Motion (McNamara-May) vote 6-0 to appoint Matthew Johnson to fill an unexpired term of service as a member of the Springfield Township Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Johnson's term of service shall expire July 13, 2026. Mr. Johnson presently serves as an alternate member of the Shade Tree Commission.

Motion (McNamara-May) vote 6-0 to appoint B.J. Bear and Craig Hinton to serve as alternate members of the Springfield Township Shade Tree Commission. Ms. Bear's term of service shall expire July 13, 2026 while Mr. Hinton's term of service shall expire July 13, 2027.

Mr. Lee opened the meeting to public comment. No public comment was received.

Motion (Wilson-Cobb) vote 6-0, to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor
Manager/Secretary