

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-\_\_\_\_\_**

**“Amendments – Amusement Devices and Skill Games”**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP, CHAPTER 4 (AMUSEMENT DEVICES), SECTION 4-2 (DEFINITIONS) TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF AMUSEMENT DEVICE, AND TO ADD A NEW DEFINED TERM FOR A SKILL GAME, AND TO AMEND SECTION 4-5 (ISSUANCE OF LICENSE; FEE; DISPLAY), SUBSECTION 4-5.B TO INCREASE THE AMUSEMENT DEVICE LICENSE FEE TO \$250 PER PERMITTED DEVICE ON A PREMISES, AND TO AMEND SECTION 4-7 (LOCATION OF DEVICES), SUBSECTION 4-7.A TO SET FORTH REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO THE AREA SURROUNDING AN AMUSEMENT DEVICE, AND TO FURTHER REPEAL AND DESIGNATE SECTION 4-8 (LOCATION OF LICENSED PREMISES) AS “RESERVED”, AND TO AMEND SECTION 4-9 (OPERATION OF PREMISES), SUBSECTION 4-9.C TO SET FORTH NEW REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPERVISION OF AND USE AND PLAY OF SKILL GAMES, AND AMENDING CHAPTER 114 (ZONING), ARTICLE II (DEFINITIONS), SECTION 114-21 (DEFINITIONS AND TERMS) TO REPEAL THE DEFINITION OF AMUSEMENT DEVICE AND TO ADD NEW DEFINED TERMS FOR CONVENIENCE STORE, INDOOR RECREATION FACILITY, SKILL GAME, AND SIGNIFICANT TOBACCO RETAILER, AND TO AMEND ARTICLE IX (B1 BUSINESS DISTRICT), SECTION 114-91 (PERMITTED USES), SUBSECTION 114-91.B TO CLARIFY THAT RETAIL USES ARE PERMITTED IN THE DISTRICT, AND AMEND ARTICLE X (B2 BUSINESS DISTRICT), SECTION 114-101 (PERMITTED USES) TO REPLACE SUBSECTION 114-101.H TO REVISE THE PERMITTED TERM FOR AN INDOOR RECREATION FACILITY, AND TO REPEAL SUBSECTION 114-101.L CONCERNING AMUSEMENT DEVICES, AND TO AMEND ARTICLE XI (S SHOPPING CENTER DISTRICT), SECTION 114-113 (USE REGULATIONS), SUBSECTION 114-113.A TO CLARIFY THAT RETAIL USES ARE PERMITTED IN THE DISTRICT, AND AMEND SUBSECTION 114-113.E AND SUBSECTION 114-113.L TO REPEAL THE REGULATIONS RELATED TO AMUSEMENT DEVICES AND TO PERMIT AN INDOOR RECREATION FACILITY BY SPECIAL EXCEPTION, AND TO

**FURTHER AMEND ARTICLE XIII (GENERAL REGULATIONS) TO ADD A NEW SUBSECTION 114-139.4 ENTITLED "SKILL GAMES" PERMITTING SKILL GAMES AS AN ACCESSORY USE TO A CLUB, FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION, CONVENIENCE STORE OR RESTAURANT LICENSED TO SERVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BY THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD, SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS.**

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The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township does hereby **ENACT** and **ORDAIN**:

**SECTION I. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 4 (Amusement Devices), Section 4-2 (Definitions), is hereby amended to delete the term "Amusement Device" and replace it with the following new definition for "Amusement Device":

**AMUSEMENT DEVICE**

Any automatic, mechanical, electric or electronic machine or device, used or designed to be operated as a game, or for entertainment or amusement, by the insertion of a coin, token, key, money or other article or by the payment of money to have it activated, and that, in some circumstances delivers or entitles the player to receive cash or cash equivalents, gift cards, vouchers, billets, tickets, tokens, or electronic credits to be exchanged for cash or cash equivalents, whether such payout is made automatically from the device or other service or manually. This definition shall include skill games. This definition shall not include the following devices:

- A. Jukeboxes.
- B. Rides.
- C. Bowling alleys.
- D. Merchandise machines which dispense beverages, food, toilet articles or other tangible personal property.
- E. Photographic machines.
- F. Any game or device maintained within a residence for the sole use of the occupants thereof and their guests.
- G. Gaming devices regulated by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board.
- H. Small games of chance regulated by the State Department of Revenue.

**SECTION II. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 4 (Amusement Devices), Section 4-2 (Definitions), is hereby amended to add a new term “Skill Game” as follows:

**SKILL GAME**

A gaming machine, apparatus, or device where a player inserts money, tokens or a card for the chance to win more money, credits, or a similar benefit, but where the outcome is determined mainly by mental or physical skill, rather than chance. No skill game shall be permitted within the same premises as a significant tobacco retailer as defined in Chapter 114.

**SECTION III. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 4 (Amusement Devices), Section 4-5 (Issuance of license; fee; display), Subsection 4-5.B is hereby repealed and restated as follows:

B. The fee for each license shall be \$250 per amusement device upon the applicant's premises. Said license shall be issued for the calendar year commencing January 1 and expiring December 31. Said license shall be renewed annually on or before December 31 by the filing of a written renewal application, accompanied by the license fee for each renewal. The license fee for any license issued in any calendar year after July 1 shall be 1/2 of the annual license fee, but shall not be prorated in any other manner.

**SECTION IV. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 4 (Amusement Devices), Section 4-7 (Location of devices), Subsection 4-7.A is hereby repealed and restated as follows:

A. The area around Amusement Devices shall be free and clear of all obstructions in order to maintain safe access to and around each device, and no access aisle shall be blocked by an Amusement Device or any seating associated with an Amusement Device which may result in a detriment to public health and safety.

**SECTION V. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 4 (Amusement Devices), Section 4-8

(Location of licensed premises) is hereby repealed in its entirety and shall be marked as “Reserved”.

**SECTION VI. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 4 (Amusement Devices), Section 4-9

(Operation of premises), Subsection 4-9.C is hereby repealed and restated as follows:

- C. The owner, occupant, tenant, or operator of any premises where amusement devices are located shall maintain adequate supervision of the premises at all times when the devices are in operation. No amusement device shall be available for use, play or operation, unless it is under the care and supervision of one or more persons over the age of 18 years who shall ensure that it is used, played and operated in compliance with this Chapter. Skill games may only be used, played or operated by persons over the age of 18 years. The person or persons charged with the care and supervision of the premises on which such skill games are located shall confirm that any person using, playing or operating a skill game is over the age of 18 years.

**SECTION VII. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 114 (Zoning), Article II (Definitions), Section 114-21 (Definitions and terms), is hereby amended to delete the term “Amusement Device”.

**SECTION VIII. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 114 (Zoning), Article II (Definitions), Section 114-21 (Definitions and terms) is hereby amended to add new defined terms for “Convenience Store”, “Skill Game”, “Indoor Recreation Facility” and “Significant Tobacco Retailer” as follows:

**CONVENIENCE STORE**

A type of retail store or establishment intended for quick sale, not specializing in a particular product, but offering an array of different items and products, including but not limited to, food and beverage primarily for off-premises consumption, dry goods, household items, personal care items, newspapers and magazines, tobacco and tobacco-related products, and similar product lines, but does not predominantly display or sell products containing tobacco, tobacco paraphernalia, Delta-8 THC (or Delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol) products, kratom, ingestible CBD/cannabidiol products, and/or electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), ENDS-related products and/or any materials that can be used in electronic nicotine delivery systems. A store that predominantly

displays or sells such products shall be considered a significant tobacco retailer. The use may include automatic teller machines and legal lottery sales.

### **INDOOR RECREATION FACILITY**

Establishments providing amusement, entertainment, or recreational services occurring within a fully enclosed structure such as: arcades containing coin-operated amusements and/or electronic games; bowling alleys; billiards; skill games, not to exceed 10 machines and subject to the requirements of Chapter 4 of the Code; laser tag businesses; indoor play center (rock climbing or inflatable party place); indoor sports fields, courts, or arenas; swimming pools; and other indoor activities determined to be substantially similar to the above and which are not otherwise specified in the Zoning Ordinance. This term shall not include the Pennsylvania Lottery (as that term is defined by the State Lottery Law), bingo games or devices operated pursuant to the Bingo Law, small games of chance, or any gambling device as defined by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or skill games as an accessory use pursuant to Section 114-139.4 of the Zoning Ordinance.

### **SKILL GAME**

A gaming machine, apparatus, or device where a player inserts money, tokens or a card for the chance to win more money, credits, or a similar benefit, but where the outcome is determined mainly by mental or physical skill, rather than chance. No skill game shall be permitted within the same premises as a significant tobacco retailer as defined in this Chapter.

### **SIGNIFICANT TOBACCO RETAILER**

Any of the following establishments:

- (1) Any retailer establishment that predominantly displays or sells tobacco products, vape products, Delta-8 THC (or Delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol), kratom, ingestible CBD/cannabidiol products, electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), and/or ENDS-related products and/or any materials that can be used in electronic nicotine delivery systems;
- (2) Any retailer establishment that holds itself out as, or otherwise promotes or markets itself as, a tobacco store, a smoke shop, a vape shop, a cigar shop or a similar establishment selling tobacco products and/or vape products or predominantly advertises tobacco products or vape products on its storefront or website;
- (3) A hookah bar or similar establishment, regardless of whether tobacco products or vape products are sold from the premises.

### **SECTION IX. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 114 (Zoning), Article IX (B1 Business District), Section 114-91 (Permitted uses), Subsection 114-91.B is hereby repealed and restated as follows:

B. Retail, office, studio, club or fraternal institution, barber- or hairdressing or other personal service shop or beauty parlor, bank, financial institution, telegraph office or public utility business office.

**SECTION X. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 114 (Zoning), Article X (B2 Business District), Section 114-101 (Permitted uses), Subsection 114-101.H is repealed and restated as follows:

H. Indoor recreation facility, when authorized by special exception, except that any use as a permanent amusement park is hereby prohibited.

**SECTION XI. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 114 (Zoning), Article X (B2 Business District), Section 114-101 (Permitted uses), Subsection 114-101.L is hereby repealed.

**SECTION XII. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 114 (Zoning), Article XI (S Shopping Center District), Section 113 (Use regulations), Subsection 114-113.A is hereby repealed and restated as follows:

A. Retail, including retail outlet or showroom for uses permitted in Subsection I hereof. Retail shall not include automobile sales agencies. No goods shall be displayed on the exterior of any building or on the lot, only incidental storage shall be permitted.

**SECTION XIII. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 114 (Zoning), Article XI (S Shopping Center District), Section 113 (Use regulations), Subsection 114.113.E is hereby repealed and restated as follows:

E. Theater, not including outdoor motion picture establishment; assembly hall, or community building or library; child day center.

**SECTION XIV. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 114 (Zoning), Article XI (S Shopping Center District), Section 114-113 (Use regulations), Subsection 114-113.L is hereby repealed and placed with the following new Subsection 114-113.L:

L. Indoor recreation facility, when authorized by special exception, except that any use as a permanent amusement park is hereby prohibited.

**SECTION XV. - Amendment to Code.**

The Code of Springfield Township, Chapter 114 (Zoning), Article XIII (General Regulations) is hereby amended to add a new Subsection 114-139.4 entitled “Skill Games” as follows:

**§ 114-139.4 Skill Games.**

- A. Skill games shall be permitted as an accessory use to only the following uses: club, fraternal organization; convenience store; or restaurant which is licensed to serve alcoholic beverages by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board. Such accessory use shall be limited to no more than three (3) skill games at a licensed premises.
- B. Skill games shall be licensed and operated in accordance with Chapter 4 of the Springfield Township Code.

**SECTION XVI. - Severability.**

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable, and if any section, sentence, clause, part or provision hereof shall be held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision of the court shall not affect or impair the remaining sections, sentences, clauses, parts or provisions of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Board that this Ordinance would have been adopted even if such illegal, invalid or unconstitutional section, sentence, clause, part or provision had not been included herein.

**SECTION XVII. - Failure to Enforce Not a Waiver.**

The failure of the Township to enforce any provision of this Ordinance shall not constitute a waiver by the Township of its rights of future enforcement hereunder.

**SECTION XVIII. - Effective Date.**

This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its approval as required by the law.

**SECTION XIX. - Repealer.**

All other ordinances and resolutions or parts thereof insofar as they are inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

**ORDAINED AND ENACTED** by the Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP**

By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Susanna Ratsavong**, President  
Board of Commissioners

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A. Michael Taylor**, Secretary

## Springfield Township Zoning Re-Write

### *Rough Timeline*

*For 4/7: To continue this process with an updated timeline, I thought we would open this for discussion at the Planning Commission meeting 4/7. This is a rough timeline, which will be open to changes, as well as inevitable meeting cancellations and/or development or ordinance reviews which will come before the Planning Commission. I'd also like to take this time to reconnect specific goals for this re-write. Consider the residential districts, business districts, and places where conservation is prioritized. I'd also like to briefly discuss some recent models and topics occurring at the County level, and determine if the Planning Commission would like further information regarding these.*

#### April 2026

- Refine "Uses" Chapter and send to Solicitor
- Discuss Residential Districts and 2013 zoning update / existing zoning districts and potential for district/map changes and consolidation, looking at Springfield Future Land Use map

#### May 2026 (Articles IIIA, IIIB, IIIC, IV, V, VI, VII, VII, VIIB, VIIC)

- Discuss existing zoning districts and potential for district/map changes and residential consolidation, looking at Springfield Future Land Use map, as well as determining need/want from residence districts
- Refine and discuss proposed uses, bulk requirements, and other regulations across residential districts

#### June 2026 (Articles IX, X, XI)

- Edit and send Residential Districts to Solicitor
- Review and discuss B1, B2, and S Districts, proposed uses, bulk requirements and other regulations.

#### July 2026 (XII, XIIC)

- Review and Discuss Industrial and Limited Industrial Districts

#### August 2026 (Article XIID, XIIA, XIIB)

- Review Historic Overlay District, Floodplain Conservation District, and Regulations for Areas of Steep Slopes

September (Article XII)

- Discuss and Review General Regulations

October (Article XII, XIV)

- Complete and send General Regulations
- Discuss and Review Sign Ordinance

November

- Discuss and review Articles XIVA, XIVB, Wireless Communications Facilities

December 2026

- Discuss and Review XV, Administration and Enforcement, XVI, ZHB, XVII, Amendments ,and XVII Interpretation; Penalties

January 2027

- Discuss and Review Definitions Chapter (Article II)

## Adult Use Versus Age – Restricted Uses

*Context: As we discussed briefly last meeting, it is necessary to include definitions and regulations for “Adult Uses” such as adult bookstores, adult movie theater, etc. After conducting research within the County, it seems there are a few ways of going about these categories. They can be defined simply as an “adult use” or “adult entertainment”, or more recently lumped into a category of “age-regulated uses”. This can contain many different types of establishments, including smoke shops (significant tobacco retailer in the Amusement Device Amendment), and the typical other “adult uses” such as adult bookstore, movie theater, etc. I wanted to discuss if this was something of interest to the planning commission, to begin to look at all of these “age-regulated” uses in a specific way, or just look to the “adult uses” right now. Below I have attached various examples of different types of language, which may be beneficial especially with the Amusement Device Ordinance at the forefront of our minds.*

Adult-Use/Adult Entertainment (Lower Merion): Any adult bookstore, adult dancing establishment, adult motion-picture theater, or commercial physical contact establishment where procedures are conducted on specific anatomical areas and are viewed by persons other than the artist and one other person with the consent of the client: Shall be subject to the following regulations:

1. Not permitted within 1,000 feet of a public or private school.
2. Not permitted within 3,000 feet of another adult entertainment establishment.

Additional Example: Age-Regulated Use ( North Wales/East Greenville)

Use X: Age-regulated use. Use D-1: Age-regulated use. An age-regulated use shall include the following uses as defined in § { : adult use, bail bond agency, check cashing business, gun shop, hookah bar, pawnshop, payday lender, shooting range, and smoke shop(significant tobacco retailer). Any business that sells or offers products containing Delta-8 THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) or Kratom, and any business that permits or sanctions off-track betting or gambling on horse racing outside a racetrack shall also be considered an age-regulated use. These enumerated uses have statutory limitations that allow patronage only by individuals 18 years of age or older; however, a minor individual may accompany an adult under certain circumstances (e.g., an individual under 16 years of age

may not use a shooting range unless accompanied by a person 18 years of age or older, pursuant to 58 Pa. Code § 135.181). The following additional regulations must be satisfied:

(a) No age-regulated use shall be located on a lot that directly abuts a lot occupied by an existing residence, place of worship, public or private school, playground, or park.

(b) Age-regulated uses shall be housed in completely enclosed buildings, designed and used in a manner which prevents the viewing of age-restricted activities, products, or materials from outside the building. No exterior display of products or activities shall be permitted, except for a sign that identifies the name of the establishment and its hours of operation, in conformance with the requirements of Article **XX**, Signs, of this chapter.

(c) If any portion of a proposed use meets the definition of an age-regulated use, then the use shall be considered an age-regulated use and shall comply with the requirements of use D-1: Age-regulated use.

*Accompanied Definitions:*

Age-Regulated Use: An age-regulated use shall include the following uses as defined by this chapter: adult use, bail bond agency, check cashing business, gun shop, hookah bar, pawnshop, payday lender, shooting range, and smoke shop. Any business that sells or offers products containing Delta-8 THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) or Kratom, and any business that permits or sanctions off-track betting or gambling on horse racing outside a racetrack shall also be considered an age-regulated use. These enumerated uses have statutory limitations that allow patronage only by individuals 18 years of age or older; however, a minor individual may accompany an adult under certain circumstances (e.g., an individual under 16 years of age may not use a shooting range unless accompanied by a person 18 years of age or older, pursuant to 58 Pa. Code § 135.181).

Adult Use: Any business, club or other similar operation which permits patrons, clients, visitors, or members to hear, view, read, lease, purchase, trade or exchange, and/or participate in activities, publications, movies, videotapes and/or live or televised performances which have as their dominant theme or themes explicit sexual activities and/or the exhibition of portions of the human or animal anatomy which are not normally seen in public or in commercial or other club-type operations, including the genital areas, buttocks and female breasts, and which

operations may or may not exclude minors by virtue of age. Included in the term "adult use" are bookstores, movie theaters, restaurants, bars and any other operation which qualifies for inclusion by virtue of the definition above, regardless of the type of other uses or operations which may also be conducted on or in the property or properties involved. See also "age-regulated use."