

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

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, September 11, 2019, at 7:30 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. Schaum. Mr. Harbison presided.

Mr. Harbison asked everyone to join the Board of Commissioners in a moment of silent reflection honoring the memories of the civilians and first responders who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks that occurred 18 years ago on this date in New York City, Washington, D.C. and suburban Pittsburgh, as well as the service men and women who have placed themselves in harm's way since then in order to help preserve our safety at home and overseas.

Mr. Harbison led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion (Wilson/Maxwell) 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. Harbison announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session following the workshop meeting held on September 9, 2019 to discuss one personnel matter and one matter of litigation.

Mr. Harbison announced that the Board was now open to receiving public comment, and drew particular attention to those items listed on the agenda.

Giuseppe Craney-Monticelli, of Oreland, questioned the need for the Board of Commissioners to consider an energy efficiency audit given the age of the township's municipal buildings. Commissioner Harbison explained that the benchmarking study the Board will consider awarding is intended to compare the Township's facilities with those of similar use, size and occupancy to determine if a full audit is necessary. He further explained that the cost of the proposed study is less than \$2,000. Mr. Craney-Monticelli then turned his attention to the Paper Mill Road School Zone study by referring to a November 2018 incident involving a student on a bicycle. He suggested that while he approves of the school zone study, he felt that the school district should be responsible for the installation of the signals. Mr. Harbison explained that it was the Township's responsibility to apply for and install the signals at the high school and middle school, but that if the need should arise for signals at the new Early Learning Center, the school district would be responsible for their installation.

Mr. Harbison, Chairman of Internal Affairs and Library Committees, reported:

Motion (Harbison-Wilson) vote 6-0, to approve the August check reconciliation in the amount \$731,676.40 and the September bill listing in the amount of \$951,433.14.

Mr. Harbison announced the 2020 budget meeting schedule as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Meetings with Support Agencies	Sept. 18, 2019	7:00 PM
Budget Workshop	Oct. 16, 2019	7:00 PM
Budget Presentation	Nov. 13, 2019	7:30 PM
Budget Hearing	Dec. 11, 2019	7:30 PM
Budget Adoption	Dec. 11, 2019	7:30 PM

Mr. Harbison noted that all meetings will take place at the Springfield Township Building.

Mr. Harbison stated that the Board of Commissioners has a statutory obligation to adopt a resolution setting forth the minimum municipal obligations to properly fund the Township pension plans, and incorporate the minimum municipal obligations into the succeeding year Township budget.

Motion (Harbison/Wilson) vote 6-0, to adopt Resolution No. 1480, a resolution establishing the 2020 pension fund minimum municipal obligations.

Motion (Harbison/Standish) vote 6-0, to reappoint Bee, Bergvall and Company, Certified Public Accountants, to serve as the Springfield Township Auditors to audit the Township's financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2019, consistent with the audit engagement letter dated August 7, 2019. Mr. Harbison indicated that the cost of the engagement is \$23,000, which is \$100 (0.4%) more than the fee charged in 2017 and 2018.

Mr. Standish reported on behalf of Commissioner Schaum, Chairman of the Public Works and Facilities Committee:

On January 9, 2019, the Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 1469 supporting the vision for a 100% clean renewable energy future referred to as the "Ready for 100" initiative. As a first step to achieving this goal, the Township desires to reduce energy use and costs by ensuring that its municipal buildings are operating as efficiently as possible.

Motion (Standish/Cobb) vote 6-0, to authorize the engagement of Practical Energy Solutions to conduct an energy benchmarking study of the police/administration, public works and library buildings in accordance with their proposal dated September 4, 2019. Mr. Standish noted that the cost of the benchmarking study is \$1,725.00.

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

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

Mr. Wilson announced that during the month of August 2019, Springfield Township residents recycled 157.33 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 79.2%. The net cost for the month was \$20,454.56.

Mr. Graham, Chairman of Parks and Recreational Resources Committee, reported:

Mr. Graham announced that on September 5, 2019, bids were received for the Bysher Softball Fields Project. The project involves the expansion of an existing crushed stone parking lot, construction of a second softball field and minor stormwater improvements. The project is to be funded, in part, via a \$50,000 grant award from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Keystone Communities Program. A total of four (4) bids were received ranging from a low of \$108,398 to a high of \$198,609.36.

Motion (Graham/Maxwell) vote 6-0, to award a contract to Ply-Mar Construction Company, of Plymouth Meeting, PA, for their low bid price of \$108,398 to complete the construction project known as the Bysher Softball fields project.

Mr. Graham announced that the Springfield Township Community Day Festival will be held on Sunday, October 6, 2019 at Cisco Park from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. All food and activities are free. A 5K Run and 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk will be held at 9:00 AM. Runners and walkers may register now or on the morning of the race beginning at 7:45 AM. Registration is also available through September 20 via the Township website by clicking on the Calendar and scrolling to the October 6 event for the "Springfield Township Community Day and 5K Race." Mr. Graham provided information on the Community Day activities.

Mr. Maxwell, Co-Chairman of Public Safety Committee, reported:

On March 19, 2019, the Board of Commissioners authorized the engagement of McMahon Associates Inc., Traffic Engineers, to conduct a school zone speed limit study to investigate the feasibility of installing a school zone warning signal along Paper Mill Road adjacent to the Springfield Township High School and Middle School. The results of the study submitted to PennDOT indicate that the warning signals are indeed warranted.

Motion (Maxwell/Graham) vote 6-0, to authorize the engagement of McMahon Associates Inc. to conduct Phase 3, School Zone Flasher Design, Tasks 1 and 3 only, in accordance with their proposal dated February 26, 2019. The cost of the work is \$4,800 for Task 1, Flashing Warning Device Permit Plan, and \$5,600 for Task 3, Construction Plans and Contract/Bid Document Preparation, for a total cost of \$10,400.

Mr. Cobb, Chairman of the Zoning Committee, reported:

Mr. Cobb announced that there will be no meeting of the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board during the month of September as there were no petitions received by the Zoning Hearing Board. The next meeting of the Zoning Hearing Board will be on Monday, October 28, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the Springfield Township Building, 1510 Paper Mill Road, Wyndmoor, PA.

Giuseppe Craney-Monticelli, of Oreland, thanked Mr. Graham for his assistance in seeing to it that the vegetation along the pedestrian sidewalk to the rear of Oreland Presbyterian Church was trimmed. He also noted that several sidewalk blocks are in need of replacement. Mr. Graham acknowledged the assistance of the township administration and public works departments to attend to the maintenance of the vegetation. Mr. Craney-Monticelli stated his objection to the use of radar by local police departments for speed enforcement activities as it held the potential for abuse. Commissioner Harbison referred Mr. Craney-Monticelli to State Representative McCarter's office to register his opposition. Mr. Craney-Monticelli referred to an open records

request that he made earlier this year that was denied by the former Township Manager, and subsequently appealed to the Commonwealth Office of Open Records where it was denied in part and approved in part. Mr. Craney-Monticelli was interested in finding out if the Township planned to appeal the decision to Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. Mr. Harbison responded in the negative and indicated the Township's intent to comply. Mr. Craney-Monticelli concluded his comments by suggesting that a 9/11 like event occurs every day.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Michael Taylor
Secretary

