

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

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, August 11, 2021, 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. Standish. Mr. Graham presided.

Mr. Graham announced that the meeting is being offered in a live streaming feature, and will be made available on the Township's website beginning Thursday morning, August 12. Mr. Graham announced that comments will not be accepted remotely, but that instructions for submitting public comment prior to the meeting were provided as part of the posted agenda.

Mr. Graham 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.

Mr. Graham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Graham announced that Mr. Standish was absent due to a previous business arrangement.

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. Graham announced that the September workshop and business meetings of the Board of Commissioners will be conducted one week later than normal on Monday, September 13 and Wednesday, September 15, 2021. The reason is the Labor Day holiday will occur on Monday, September 6 which is the normal meeting date for the Board's workshop meeting. Both the workshop and business meetings will begin at their usual 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM start times.

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

Mr. Graham, Chairman of the Parks and Recreational Resources Committee, had no report.

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

On March 15, 2021, Federal Realty Investment Trust, owner of the Flourtown Shopping Center, filed an application with Springfield Township seeking land development approval for the construction of a 4,500 square foot pad site at the Flourtown Shopping Center, portions of which are located in Springfield and Whitemarsh Townships. Concurrent with the Springfield Township land development application, Federal Realty filed a land development plan with Whitemarsh

Township. Both the Springfield Township and Whitemarsh Township engineers subsequently identified comments and deficiencies with the plans that must be addressed by the applicant prior to approval.

Motion (Wilson-Cobb) vote 6-0, to accept a letter dated July 30, 2021 from Craig R. Lewis, counsel for Federal Realty Investment Trust, extending the 90-day subdivision/land development plan review period up to and including October 30, 2021. The extension of time will provide Federal Realty the opportunity to revise their land development plans to be in compliance with the Springfield Township Code.

Mr. Cobb commented on the complexity of the plan due to its location in two municipalities, and that the applicant is appearing before the Whitemarsh Township Zoning Hearing Board on this date as part of the approval process.

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

Motion (Harbison-Maxwell) vote 6-0 to approve the July check reconciliation in the amount of \$1,105,498.48, and the August bill listing in the amount of \$444,729.92.

Mr. Harbison explained that each year, the Board of Commissioners is required to adopt pension fund minimum municipal obligations (MMOs) pledging the proper funding of the pension plans. An important factor in establishing the MMOs is the assumed rate of return on investments for the existing assets of the pension fund. While a higher assumed rate of return on investments reduces the immediate contributions required from the Township's general fund, to the extent that the assumed rate of return is not achieved, an actuarial loss to the pension plans is recorded, and must be paid back over time. Therefore, the assumed rate of return on investments should be as close as possible to the historic rates of actual return in order to ensure proper funding is sustained. The current assumed rate of return is 6.75%, which was reduced from 7% in 2018, and from 8% several years prior to that.

Motion (Harbison-Lee) vote 6-0, to adopt Resolution No. 1540, a resolution authorizing and directing the Springfield Township pension fund actuary to utilize an assumed rate of return from investments of six and twenty-five one hundredths percent (6.25%) for all Township defined benefit pension plans commencing with the 2021 actuarial valuation reports, and the 2022 minimum municipal obligation certifications.

Mr. Harbison summarized the impact of the Boards actions this evening to ensure proper funding of the pension plans.

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

Mr. Wilson announced that during the month of July 2021, Springfield Township residents recycled 156.03 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 77.7%. The net cost for the month was \$18,113.29.

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

Mr. Cobb, Chairman of Zoning Committee, reported:

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Monday, August 23, 2021 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb summarized the three petitions to be heard by the Zoning Hearing Board.

Mr. Lee, Chairman of Public Works and Facilities Committee, had no report.

The meeting was again opened to public comment. No public comment was received.

Mr. Graham thanked all township residents and fellow commissioners for their love and support during his recent illness and subsequent recovery.

Mr. Wilson asked for clarification on the dates for the upcoming Zoning Hearing Board meetings.

Mr. Cobb commented that he was pleased to have Commissioner Graham back. Additionally, Mr. Cobb wished to thank the township manager and staff for their efforts to digitize the agenda materials and to make the materials more accessible to township residents.

Motion (Graham-Cobb) vote 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor
Manager/Secretary