

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

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, July 13, 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. Graham announced that the video would be made available on the Township's website beginning Thursday, July 13, 2022. All members of the Board were present, with the exception of Messrs. Standish, Wilson and Lee. Mr. Graham presided.

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 at home and abroad.

Mr. Graham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion (Ratsavong-Cobb) vote 4-0, 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 noted the absence of Commissioners Standish, Wilson and Lee who were all on vacation.

Mr. Graham announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session as part of their July 11, 2022 workshop meeting to discuss one personnel issue, and one real estate/litigation matter.

Mr. Graham announced that approximately two weeks ago the Board of Commissioners was made aware of lawn signage at a private residence in the Township expressing anti-Semitic and hateful political views. It was noted that the First Amendment protects speech of this nature and does not permit the Township to take criminal action without specific threats of violence. Nevertheless, Mr. Graham suggested that the views are not in line with the beliefs of this Board, nor are they reflective of the Springfield Township community. Anti-Semitism has a long and ugly history in the world and in this country. This Board stands steadfastly against it and all other forms of racism, discrimination and intolerance, and condemns the use of such hateful signage in the strongest terms possible.

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

Mr. Graham, Chairman of the Cultural Resources Committee, had no report.

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

Motion (Graham-Cobb) vote 4-0, to adopt Resolution No. 1571, a resolution granting preliminary/final land development approval for the LaSalle College High School David

Center building addition. The subject of the plan is the construction of a 6,500 square foot classroom addition that will serve students with special learning needs.

Mr. Graham announced the planned retirement of Robert “Bob” Gutowski as a member of the Springfield Township Planning Commission effective September 20, 2022. Mr. Gutowski was appointed to the planning commission in May 1998 and, for a majority of those years, was elected by his fellow members to serve as its Chair. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Mr. Graham thanked Mr. Gutowski for contributing his time and talents to the Springfield Township community for the past 24 years. With the planned retirement of Mr. Gutowski, there will exist a vacancy as a member of the Springfield Township Planning Commission. Residents who are interested in serving as a member of the planning commission were instructed to send a letter of interest or resume to the attention of Michael Taylor, Township Manager.

Ms. Ratsavong reported for Mr. Wilson, Chairman of Environmental Resources Committee:

Ms. Ratsavong announced that during the month of June 2022, Springfield Township residents recycled 204.08 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 66.3%. The net cost for the month was \$10,412.18.

Motion (Ratsavong-Cobb) vote 4-0, to appoint Martin Ryan, Erdenheim, to serve as an associate member of the Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission. Associate members do not have voting privileges, but are encouraged to attend and participate in all meetings of the commission, and assist with educational programs, research and special projects.

Motion (Ratsavong-Cobb) vote 4-0 to authorize the award of a professional services contract to Practical Energy Solutions of West Chester, PA to conduct an energy operational assessment of the police/administration and library buildings in order to identify opportunities to reduce energy consumption and associated expenses. The cost of the study is not to exceed \$4,500.

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

Motion (Maxwell-Cobb) vote 4-0 to award a professional services contract to Pennoni Associates, of Haddon Heights, NJ, to oversee environmental building abatement and demolition activities at the former Tank Car Corporation of America site, 1725 Walnut Avenue, Oreland. The scope of work will include the preparation of bid specifications for the abatement of hazardous building materials, and the demolition of four on-site structures, as well as the inspection, documentation and oversight of all work to be performed by contractors that will be selected via a competitive bid process at a future date. The cost of the work is \$24,500 and was the lowest proposal received.

Motion (Maxwell-Ratsavong) vote 4-0 to adopt Resolution No. 1572, a resolution authorizing an application to the Montgomery County Transportation Program to mill and resurface specified Township streets. The total cost of the work is \$156,474 of which \$125,179 is requested from Montgomery County, together with a local match in the amount of \$31,295.

The Montgomery County Transportation Program is funded via a \$5 fee that is added to the annual renewal fee for each vehicle registered in Montgomery County.

Motion (Maxwell-Ratsavong) vote 4-0 to authorize the advertisement of bids for the stabilization of streambanks along the Paper Mill Run in the 8800 block of Carlisle Road, Wyndmoor, and within Cisco Park, Erdenheim. The work is to be funded utilizing public disaster assistance grants that have been obtained by the Township for damages sustained as a result of Tropical Storm Ida in September, 2021.

Motion (Maxwell-Cobb) vote 4-0 to reappoint Edward H. "Ted" Bell to a new, three-year term of service as a member of the Springfield Township Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Bell's new term of service shall expire on July 13, 2025.

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

Motion (Cobb-Maxwell) vote 4-0 to approve the June check reconciliation in the amount of \$320,273.83, and the July bill listing in the amount of \$ 976,312.81.

Motion (Cobb-Maxwell) vote 4-0 to authorize the execution of an agreement with Joelle Kleinman, Tax Collector, to memorialize the compensation received, pay schedule, and reimbursement of office expenses associated with the tax collector's position. Under the terms of the agreement, Ms. Kleinman will receive a \$10,000 salary as established by the Pennsylvania First Class Township Code, 1.2% of the total amount of refuse fees collected during the calendar year, and the reimbursement of actual expenditures necessary to perform those duties.

Motion (Cobb-Maxwell) vote 4-0 to authorize the execution of a 36-month lease-purchase agreement with Univest Bank/Municipal Capital Finance for the replacement of two multi-function printer/scanner/copier/fax machines, and a postage meter. The total amount of payments is \$20,836.72. All equipment will be purchased utilizing the Pennsylvania Department of General Services Cooperative Purchasing program.

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will next meet on Monday, July 25, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb read into the record the Zoning Hearing Board Agenda, and noted that the applications are on file in the Code Enforcement Office and may be viewed during normal business hours.

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

Motion (Maxwell-Ratsavong) vote 4-0 to waive section 3303.1 (12) of the Springfield Township Fire Prevention Code in order that the North Hills Country Club may conduct a professional fireworks display on Sunday evening, September 4, 2022 at approximately 8:15 PM as part of the Club's annual Labor Day celebration. The approval is conditioned upon the following: 1) the pyrotechnical firm and North Hills Country Club shall add Springfield Township as an additional insured on their certificates of insurance for the event; and 2) the pyrotechnical firm and the North Hills Country Club shall work closely with the Springfield Township Fire Marshal and Oreland Fire Company to help prevent an accident and to create a plan of action in the event that an accident does occur during the activity.

Mr. Maxwell announced that the Springfield Township Police Department will celebrate National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2, 2022 from 6 – 9 pm at the Springfield Township Municipal Campus. National Night Out is an annual community building campaign that enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing a true sense of community. It's a chance to bring neighborhoods together with the men and women who protect them. National Night Out promotes the police-community partnership and camaraderie to make our Township a better and safer place to live. Mr. Maxwell encouraged all to come out and enjoy a great night filled with fun, games, and entertainment.

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

Ms. Ratsavong announced that on Thursday, June 30, 2022, two bids were received for the Bysher Fields ADA Improvements Project. The scope of work for the project includes the construction of three, ADA-compliant parking spaces and the application of two layers of asphalt macadam over an existing stone path. The two bids received exceeded the Township's budget due to the high cost of petroleum-based products utilized for paving activities. Accordingly, Township staff has recommended the rejection of all bids received, and to rebid the project this winter for completion next spring.

Motion (Ratsavong-Maxwell) vote 3-1 (Cobb opposed) to reject all bids received on June 30, 2022 for the Bysher Fields ADA Improvements Project, and authorize Township staff to re-advertise the project for completion prior to the 2023 spring baseball season.

Mr. Cobb explained his opposing vote by expressing his concern that rebidding the project at a later date may not yield lower bids as anticipated.

Ms. Ratsavong announced that Sara Hughes has found it necessary to resign as a member of the Springfield Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee. On behalf of the Board, Ms. Ratsavong thanked Mrs. Hughes for contributing her time and talents to the Springfield Township community. With the resignation of Mrs. Hughes, there presently exists a vacancy as a member of the Springfield Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee. Interested residents were encouraged to send a letter of interest or resume to the attention of Michael Taylor, Township Manager.

Mr. Graham once again opened the meeting to public comment. No such comments were received.

Motion (Graham-Ratsavong) vote 4-0 to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor
Secretary/Manager