

MINUTES OF MEETING  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, September 13, 2023 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. All members of the Board were present with the exception of Mr. Lee. Mr. Standish presided.

Mr. Standish 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. Standish led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion (Wilson-May) 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. Standish announced that Commissioner Lee was absent from the meeting due to a personal matter.

Mr. Standish announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session as part of its September 11, 2023 workshop meeting to receive an update on one litigation matter and to discuss one personnel matter, and also just prior to tonight's meeting to discuss one matter of potential litigation.

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

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

Mr. Standish announced there was no report for the Public Safety Committee.

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

Mr. Wilson announce that during the month of August 2023, Springfield Township residents recycled 181.2 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 69.0%. The net cost for the month was \$27,469.44.

Mr. Wilson informed the audience that household hazardous waste is not suitable for collection by the Township, and announced that each year Montgomery County conducts special drop-off collection events for residents to properly dispose of household hazardous waste. Mr. Wilson announced that the next collection event will be on Saturday, September 23 at the Springfield 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center in Royersford, PA.

Motion (Wilson-May) vote 6-0, to authorize the advertisement of an ordinance to amend Chapter 85 of the Code of the Township of Springfield to revise the definitions of "Exempt Bag" and "Single Use Plastic Carry-Out Bag" by eliminating the exemptions for plastic bags utilized in connection with food delivery and takeout orders, as well as any bags provided for use by a Retail Establishment operated by the federal government, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or local government, or department agency thereof.

Mr. Wilson announced that the proposed ordinance will be made available for review beginning Friday, September 15, 2023 on the Township’s website, at the Free Library of Springfield Township, and in the Office of the Springfield Township Manager, during normal business hours.

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

Motion (Maxwell-Ratsavong) vote 6-0 to authorize the sale of a 2006 International 25 cubic yard refuse truck with 64,007 miles and 11,974 engine hours via the Municibid on-line public auction site.

Motion (Maxwell-Wilson) vote 6-0 to appoint Matthew Johnson, Flourtown, to fill an unexpired term of service as an alternate member of the Springfield Township Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Johnson’s term of service shall expire July 13, 2024.

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

Motion (Cobb-Maxwell) vote 6-0 to approve the August check reconciliation in the amount of \$2,124,869.22, and the September bill listing in the amount of \$937,555.70.

Mr. Cobb announced the 2024 budget meeting schedule as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Meetings with Support Agencies	9/20/2023	7:00 PM
Budget Workshop	10/18/2023	7:00 PM
Budget Presentation	11/8/2023	7:30 PM
Budget Hearing	12/13/2023	7:30 PM
Budget Adoption	12/13/2023	7:30 PM

All meetings will be held at the Springfield Township Building, 1510 Paper Mill Road, Wyndmoor PA 19038.

Motion (Cobb-Ratsavong) vote 6-0 to adopt Resolution No. 1618, a resolution establishing the 2024 pension fund minimum municipal obligations for the three defined benefit and one defined contribution pension plans.

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board would next meet on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb summarized the Zoning Hearing Board agenda and announced that copies of all applications are on file in the Code Enforcement Office and may be viewed during normal business hours.

Mr. Cobb announced that at the July 12, 2023 meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Board authorized the Township Solicitor to represent the interests of the Board in opposition to the petition submitted by Michael DeLaurentis, 2 Terminal Avenue. The applicant was requesting a variance to reduce the required right-of-way setback from fifteen (15) feet to zero (0) feet in order to permit the installation of a six-foot high fence along the Terminal Avenue side of the property. The applicant has agreed to modify his plans by reducing the height of the fence in its current location from six feet to five feet in height, and to landscape the area between the sidewalk and the fence.

Motion (Cobb-Ratsavong) vote 6-0 to rescind the Board’s previous authorization to oppose the petition in accordance with representations made to the Board of Commissioners at their September 11, 2023 meeting, conditioned upon the following: 1) the solid portion of the

fence shall be limited to no more than four feet in height and “topped” with an additional one foot of lattice treatment for a total height of five feet, and 2) the plan shall add landscaping in accordance with a plan presented to the Board of Commissioners at their September 11, 2023 meeting to soften the appearance of the fence without unreasonably infringing upon the ability of pedestrians to use the sidewalk.

Motion (Cobb-May) vote 6-0 to authorize the office of the Township Solicitor to represent the interests of the Board in opposition to the petition submitted by Santander, N.A. for any additional facial signs in excess of thirty (30) square feet in size along the Bethlehem Pike side of the building located at 1842 Bethlehem Pike, Flourtown.

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

Ms. Ratsavong announced that draft version of the Springfield Township Trails & Connectivity Plan is available for review on the Township website. Ms. Ratsavong also announced that arrangements have been made for the Montgomery County Planning Commission to present the Plan to the community at the October 11, 2023 meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Ratsavong stated that the by-laws of the Springfield Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee state that the Committee will be comprised of seven members, two of whom shall be appointed by the School Board of Directors, one of whom shall be a School Board Member. The School District has recommended that Cara Green, Business Administrator, be appointed as a School District representative to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee.

Motion (Ratsavong-May) vote 6-0 to appoint Cara Green to fill an unexpired term of service as a member of the Springfield Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. Ms. Green’s term of service shall expire May 12, 2026.

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

Mr. May announced that the Springfield Township Community Day celebration will take place on Sunday, October 1, 2023, from 10 AM to 1 PM at Cisco Park in Erdenheim, and will be preceded by the Erdenheim Civic Association 5K Race and Fun Run, beginning at 9 AM. Food, entertainment, fishing, fire and ambulance equipment displays, and a petting zoo will be provided free of charge. Community Day is made possible via the generous support of our business community and various community volunteers.

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

Motion (Ratsavong-Wilson) vote 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor  
Secretary/Manager