

MINUTES OF MEETING  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, April 10, 2024 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. Commissioner Lee presided.

Mr. Lee asked Mr. Taylor if any remote public comments were received prior to the meeting. Mr. Taylor reported that no remote comments were received.

Mr. Lee 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. Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion (Wilson-May) carried unanimously 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. Lee announced that Andrew Freimuth was in attendance representing the Township Solicitor's office.

Mr. Lee announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session as part of their April 8, 2024 workshop meeting to discuss two litigation matters and one personnel matter.

Mr. Lee announced that at approximately 7:30 a.m. on this date, Springfield Township Police responded to a residence on Cromwell Road for a wellness check. They arrived to find a female resident deceased in the home's master bedroom. A joint investigation was launched by Montgomery County Detectives and Springfield Township Police. Therefore, the Board elected to reschedule the police commendation ceremony that was scheduled for this evening. The ceremony has been rescheduled for the May 8, 2024 meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

An announcement was made that the annual Springfield Township No Stigma/No Shame Day will be observed on Saturday, April 20, 2024. No Stigma/No Shame Day is intended to support public awareness of substance use disorder and to promote awareness of mental health challenges. As part of the observance, a Community Town Hall forum will be held on Thursday, April 11 at the Springfield Township Building beginning at 6:15 PM. The program is called "Navigating the Maze of Substance Abuse and Mental Health".

It was also announced that on Saturday, April 27 from 10 AM to 2 PM, the Springfield Township Police Department will participate in National Drug Take Back Day by accepting and safely disposing of unwanted and expired prescription drugs at the police station.

Mr. Lee opened the meeting to public comment.

Thomas Danta, Paper Mill Road, addressed the Board regarding two recent sewer back-ups that occurred in the 100 block of Paper Mill Road and the associated impacts. Mr. Danta went into extended detail about the occurrences. He understood that the Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority is the responsible utility, but asked for the Township's assistance to ensure that the Authority is attending to their maintenance obligations to prevent future occurrences.

Mr. Lee, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, had no report.

P.D. Wilson, Chairman of the Community Development Committee, reported:

Motion (Wilson-McNamara) carried unanimously to accept a letter dated April 8, 2024 from Gerald Rath, Esq., on behalf of the owners of 40 and 42 Grove Avenue, Flourtown, extending the 90-day subdivision/land development plan review period through May 9, 2024. The subject of the application is a lot line adjustment that proposes to transfer 2,936 square feet from 42 Grove Avenue to 40 Grove Avenue. The extension of time will allow the applicant the opportunity to revise their plans in order to comply with the Springfield Township Code.

Motion (Wilson-Cobb) carried unanimously to accept a letter dated March 22, 2024 from Bernadette Kearney, Esq., on behalf of Mount Saint Joseph Academy, 120 West Wissahickon Avenue, Flourtown, extending the 90-day subdivision/land development plan review period through December 31, 2024. The subject of the application is the construction of a 32,000 square foot building addition, 40 new off-street parking spaces, a landscaped courtyard and four new tennis courts. The extension of time will allow the applicant the opportunity to revise their plans in order to comply with the Springfield Township Code.

Motion (Wilson-Ratsavong) carried unanimously to reappoint Stacey Blankin to a new, four-year term of service as a member of the Springfield Township Planning Commission. Ms. Blankin's new term of service shall expire February 16, 2028.

Motion (Wilson-May) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1639, a resolution appointing Dave Sands, George Schaefer and Keith Schwartz to serve on the Springfield Township Building Code Board of Appeals. The terms of service are as follows: April 15, 2025, April 15, 2026, and April 15, 2027, respectively.

Mr. Taylor briefly described the circumstances under which the Appeals Board would be convened.

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

Motion (Cobb-Wilson) carried unanimously to approve the March check reconciliation in the amount of \$454,412.57, and the April bill listing in the amount of \$1,144,917.26.

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Monday, April 22, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb summarized the Zoning Hearing Board agenda. Mr. Cobb informed everyone that a continuance has been requested for all 3 petitions, and that the next meeting of the Zoning Hearing Board will be on May 20, 2024 due to the Memorial Day holiday.

Motion (Cobb-May) carried unanimously to authorize the Office of the Township Solicitor to execute a Settlement Agreement with the owners of property located at 40 and 42 Grove Avenue, Flourtown, to settle a land use appeal involving an accessory structure that spans both properties. In accordance with the terms of the agreement, the owner shall not be permitted to store more than three (3) personally owned antique vehicles at the property, and shall be required to utilize the property in strict compliance with the uses permitted in the underlying residential zoning district.

Ms. Ratsavong, Chair of Parks and Recreational Resources Committee, had no report.

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

Please announce that during the month of March 2024, Springfield Township residents recycled 134.9 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 72.9%. The net cost for the month was \$22,998.04.

Mr. May reminded residents that leaf compost is now available at the Township's distribution site located on West Wissahickon Avenue. Leaf compost can be added to soil as a soil amendment or used as a top dressing around landscape plants in place of hardwood mulch.

Mr. May announced that Richard Metz, an associate member of the Environmental Advisory Commission, recently informed the Township that it was necessary for him to resign his position because he will be relocating outside of Springfield Township. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Mr. May thanked Mr. Metz for his service to the Springfield Township community.

Mr. May announced that there are now two vacancies as associate members of the environmental advisory commission, and instructed any residents who are interested in serving in this capacity to send a letter of interest or resume to the attention of Michael Taylor, Township Manager.

Ms. McNamara, Chairwoman of Public Works and Facilities Committee, reported:

Ms. McNamara announced that on April 3, 2024, bids were received for the Township's 2024 Highway Resurfacing and Milling Program. Three bids were received ranging from a low of \$276,019 to a high of \$311,542.50.

Motion (McNamara-Cobb) carried unanimously to award a contract to Glasgow, Inc. of Glenside, to mill and resurface specified Township streets for their combined low bid of \$91.00 per ton for resurfacing, and \$3.40 per square yard for road milling, for a total estimated price of \$276,019.

Motion (McNamara-Cobb) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1640, a resolution proclaiming Saturday, April 27, 2024, as Arbor Day in Springfield Township.

Ms. McNamara announced that as part of the Township's annual Arbor Day celebration, the Township Shade Tree Commission will be conducting a tree planting ceremony and tree giveaway beginning at 10 AM at Wyndhill Park. Residents were encouraged to enter a drawing to receive a free tree by registering their name, address and contact information beginning Friday, April 12.

Motion (McNamara-Morris) carried unanimously to authorize the sale of a 2008 Dura Tech Model 3010 Tub Grinder via the Municibid on-line public auction site.

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

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

Motion (Wilson-McNamara) carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor  
Secretary