**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP**

 The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, January 8, 2020, 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. 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 place themselves in harm’s way in order to help preserve our safety at home and overseas.

 Mr. Standish led the Pledge of Allegiance.

 Motion (Graham/Wilson) 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. Standish welcomed Mr. Lee to his first meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

 Mr. Standish announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session meeting on January 6, 2020 as part of the regularly scheduled workshop meeting on that date to discuss one personnel matter and one property matter.

 Mr. Standish announced that the Board was now open to receiving public comment, and drew particular attention to those items listed on the agenda. No public comment was received.

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

 Mr. Standish announced the committee chair assignments of the individual Board members and the assignment of liaison positions of the Board members to the various support agencies of the Board of Commissioners. All committee assignments and liaison positions would remain the same with the exception of Mr. Lee, who will chair the Public Works and Facilities Committee and serve as the liaison to the Shade Tree Commission.

 Mr. Standish announced that the Board of Commissioners recently received the Chestnut Hill Conservancy Preservation Award for the creation of the Township’s Historic Resources Overlay District Ordinance. Mr. Standish explained that the Historic Resources Ordinance is intended to promote, protect and facilitate the preservation of resources of historic significance, and to preserve the historic values in the Township environment.

 Mr. Standish announced that the Historic Resources Overlay District ordinance also adds a new Chapter to the Township Code entitled “Historic Resources”, which establishes the Springfield Township Historical Commission. Members of the Commission are charged with preparing and maintaining a list of properties eligible for listing in the Township’s historic resources inventory, among other duties. Mr. Standish indicated that the Board of Commissioners is accepting resumes and letters of interest through the end of the month from those individuals who are interested in serving as volunteer members of the Springfield Township Historical Commission. Mr. Standish reviewed the desired qualifications and residency requirements of the Historical Commission members.

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

 Motion (Harbison/Wilson) carried unanimously, to approve the December check reconciliation in the amount $1,102,410.37 and the January bill listing in the amount of $458,506.11.

 Mr. Harbison announced that In March of 2014 Acme Markets entered into a Conditional Licensing Agreement with the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) for the transfer of a Restaurant Liquor License for use at its store located at 1640 Bethlehem Pike in Flourtown. The license was transferred from a location in Cheltenham Township which necessitated the approval of the Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township. As part of that approval process, the Board of Commissioners imposed a prohibition on the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption prior to 10 AM. However, the PLCB recently issued an Advisory Notice that requires all retail license holders such as Acme to offer alcoholic beverages for sale for on-premises consumption at all times when those beverages are available for sale for off-premises consumption. Accordingly, Acme Markets has requested the Board of Commissioners to reconsider the earlier prohibition that was placed on the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption. On Monday evening the Board received a presentation from counsel from Acme Markets who indicated that the on-premises consumption of beer and wine constitutes less than 1% of Acme’s alcoholic beverage sales.

 Motion (Harbison/Graham) carried unanimously, authorizing the first amendment to the Conditional Licensing Agreement between Acme Markets and the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board for License No. R-2124 by removing section 6(b) of the Agreement in order to permit Acme Markets to sell both beer and wine for on-premises consumption during all hours in which Acme Markets is selling beer and wine for off-premises consumption. All other terms of the Agreement will remain in effect

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

 Mr. Wilson announced that during the month of December 2019, Springfield Township residents recycled 212.79 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 84.6%. The net cost for the month was $19,251.07. Mr. Wilson stated that for the year ending December 31, 2019, residents recycled a total of 2,207.41 tons of materials, which was 96.1% of the projected tonnage to be recycled, and on a weekly basis, approximately 79.2% of the households participated in the program.

 Mr. Wilson announced that in January 2019, Springfield Township adopted Resolution #1469, becoming the first municipality in Montgomery County to publically commit to the transition to 100% clean and renewal energy. Clean and renewable energy is defined as carbon-free and pollution-free energy generated sustainably from wind, solar, small hydro, tidal and geothermal sources. The Pennsylvania Municipal League, through its Municipal Utility Alliance program, has obtained pricing through a competitive bid process for the purchase of clean and renewable energy. As a member of the Pennsylvania Municipal League, Springfield Township is eligible to purchase electricity through the Municipal Utility Alliance program.

 Motion (Wilson/Lee) carried unanimously, authorizing the execution of a twelve-month contract with Constellation Energy for the purchase of 100% clean and renewable energy at the fixed rate cost of $0.06065 per Kilowatt hour. The total cost of the contract is estimated to be $40,153.94, or $567.57 more than electricity obtained through traditional generating sources, based upon the township’s most recent 12-month period. Prior to executing the contract with Constellation Energy, the contract shall be in form acceptable to the Township Solicitor’s office.

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

 Mr. Graham announced that the Cheltenham Township chapter of the NAACP will be conducting a Day of Service on Monday, January 20 to celebrate the life and contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King. The Day of Service activities will include a “Team Up to Clean Up” event to remove litter and debris from the State Route 309 on and off ramps at Paper Mill Road. Mr. Graham stated that the ramps are named in honor of Bishop David and Catherine Graham, local civil rights legends. Mr. Graham noted that later that evening, Arcadia University will be hosting a panel discussion about the school-to-prison pipeline that will feature several dignitaries from Montgomery County, local law enforcement and the PA Human Relations Commission. The discussion will take place in the Commons Great Room beginning at 7:00 PM.

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

 Mr. Maxwell announced that in August 2019, the Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township adopted Resolution #1479 authorizing an application to the Montgomery County Transportation Program to fund the installation of school warning signals on Paper Mill Road in front of the Springfield Township Middle and High Schools. The Township’s application was approved by Montgomery County earlier this year in the mount of $79,072, and will fund 100% of the estimated cost of the construction activities associated with the project, together with a local match in the amount of $19,768 for design and engineering.

 Motion (Maxwell/Graham) carried unanimously, to authorize the execution of a grant agreement with the Montgomery County Planning Commission to fund the installation of school zone warning signals and radar speed display signs along Paper Mill Road near Springfield Middle School and Springfield High School.

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

 Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will next meet on January 27, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb summarized the Zoning Hearing Board Agenda.

 Motion (Cobb/Graham) carried unanimously, to authorize the office of the Township Solicitor to represent the interests of the Board of Commissioners in opposition to the petition submitted by Laboratory Corporation of America seeking multiple zoning variances in order to place additional signage on the existing Walgreens Pharmacy located at 1456 Bethlehem Pike, Flourtown, or to otherwise negotiate a sign package acceptable to the Board of Commissioners.

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

 Mr. Standish announced that the Board was once again open to receiving public comment.

 Sonya Patrick, a recruiter with the United States Census Bureau, addressed the Board of Commissioners for the purpose of soliciting applicants for 2020 Census employment opportunities. Ms. Patrick stated that the census is in need of 1,000 temporary employees in Montgomery County alone to assist with the census. Wages are $27 per hour plus mileage reimbursement. Mr. Standish asked if employees must be residents of Montgomery County in order to fill those jobs. Ms. Patrick replied that applicants are assigned to territories close to their place of residency for their convenience. Mr. Harbison requested Township staff to assist with the census recruiting efforts by creating a message on the Township website and distributing it via an e-mail.

 Mr. Maxwell announced that Girl Scout cookie sales will begin on Thursday, January 16 and encouraged all Township residents to support the Girl Scouts’ efforts.

 Motion (Graham/Maxwell) carried unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 PM.

 Respectfully submitted,

1. Michael Taylor,

 Secretary