

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

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, March 9, 2022, at 7:30 PM in 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. Lee announced that the video would be made available on the Township's website beginning Thursday, March 10, 2022. All members of the Board were present, with the exception of Mr. Graham. Mr. Lee presided.

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 abroad.

Mr. Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion (Wilson-Ratsavong) 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. Lee noted the absence of Commissioner Graham.

Mr. Lee announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session as part of their March 7, 2022 workshop meeting to discuss two personnel matters, and one real estate matter.

Mr. Lee invited Chief Pitkow to the front of the room at which time the newly hired police officer, Daniel Lopez, was called upon to join Chief Pitkow. Chief Pitkow provided a brief background of Officer Lopez, and outlined the process for becoming a police officer. Judge McGill was called to the front of the room to administer the oath of office to Officer Lopez.

Mr. Lee opened the meeting to public comment.

Margaret Mary Burke, Oreland, asked the Board to issue a declaration against the Russian War in support of Ukrainian citizens and refugees. Ms. Burke also asked the Board to consider allowing individuals to participate remotely in the workshop meetings. The Board agreed to hold a discussion on this topic next month. Ms. Burke asked for a status report of the Tank Car property remediation efforts and plans to convert the property to a park. Messrs. Lee and Taylor provided a comprehensive status report, including a proposed timeline. Ms. Burke asked that residents be kept informed.

Mr. Lee reported for Mr. Graham, Chairman of Cultural Resources Committee:

Motion (Lee-Wilson) vote 6-0, to appoint Sarah LoGiudice, of Erdenheim, to fill an unexpired term of service as a member of the Free Library of Springfield Township Advisory Committee. Mrs. LoGiudice's term of service shall expire December 31, 2024.

Motion (Lee-Ratsavong) vote 6-0, to adopt Resolution No. 1562, a resolution authorizing the Board of Commissioners to designate authorized agents to act on its behalf with respect to an E\*Trade investment account previously maintained by the Library Board of Directors of the Free Library of Springfield Township. The Library Board was dissolved in 2007 when the Free Library of Springfield Township was established as a Township operating department, at which time the Township assumed all assets and liabilities of the library. The current agents for the account are no longer affiliated with the Township, and it is necessary to designate new agents to manage the account.

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

Motion (Standish-Cobb) vote 6-0 to adopt Resolution No. 1563, a resolution granting preliminary/final land development approval to Federal Realty Investment Trust, owners of the Flourtown Shopping Center, 1890 Bethlehem Pike, Flourtown, for the construction of a new, 2,450 square foot pad site in both Springfield and Whitmarsh Townships. The development includes the construction of new pedestrian sidewalk connections from Bethlehem Pike at two locations, as well as a new landscape island, landscaping, and pedestrian bump outs within the main access driveway. At the request of Springfield Township, Federal Realty has also agreed to install additional landscape screening materials in the vicinity of the Giant Supermarket in order to provide visual and noise mitigation measures. Mr. Cobb expressed his appreciation for the efforts of Federal Realty to address the concerns of the area residents.

Motion (Standish-Ratsavong) vote 6-0 to accept a letter dated March 1, 2022, from Bebe Pisani, owner of 811 and 813 Pleasant Avenue, Wyndmoor, extending the 90-day subdivision/land development plan review period until April 15, 2022. The extension of time will provide Ms. Pisani the opportunity to revise the subdivision/lot line application involving the properties located at 811 and 813 Pleasant Avenue to be in compliance with the Springfield Township Code.

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

Mr. Wilson announced that during the month of February 2022, Springfield Township residents recycled 149.4 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 72.2%. The net cost for the month was \$20,533.60.

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

Mr. Maxwell announced that on February 22, 2022, bids were received for the Mermaid Pond Dredging Project for the removal of approximately 3,500 cubic yards of sediment from Mermaid Pond in Wyndmoor. Bids were received from two (2) contractors and ranged in price from \$78,000 to \$186,431.

Motion (Maxwell-Standish) vote 6-0, to award a contract to Toth Brothers Clearing and Dredging, Inc. for the Mermaid Pond Dredging Project in accordance with their low bid price of \$78,000. The project is being funded via a grant obtained from Montgomery County to improve water quality and aquatic habitat at Mermaid Park.

Mr. Maxwell announced that Montgomery County is moving forward with the construction of a portion of the Cross County/Wissahickon Trail project on a portion of the Erdenheim Farm property within Springfield Township. The local trail will be part of a regional trail network that will connect the Schuylkill River in Conshohocken, to Bucks County. The local trail will connect Forbidden Drive with Fort Washington State Park. The new trail will be constructed of pervious pavement in order to satisfy the Township's stormwater management regulations, and will require proper maintenance to perform as designed.

Motion (Maxwell-Cobb) vote 6-0 to authorize the appropriate Township officials to enter into a Stormwater Management Facilities Operations and Maintenance Agreement with Montgomery County for the Cross County/Wissahickon Trail Connection through Erdenheim Farm. The agreement requires Montgomery County to be responsible for the maintenance of the trail, and provides the Township with the right to enter, inspect, and if necessary, perform maintenance to the trail, with all costs to be borne by the County.

Mr. Cobb inquired as to a timeline. Mr. Taylor responded that there is no definitive date but the County indicated that it is very close.

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

Motion (Cobb-Maxwell) vote 6-0 to approve the February check reconciliation in the amount of \$470,605.47, and the March bill listing in the amount of \$395,007.88.

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Monday, March 28, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb summarized the Zoning Hearing Board agenda and announced that copies of the applications and plans are on file in the Code Enforcement Office and may be viewed during normal business hours.

Mr. Cobb announced that at the February 9, 2022 meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Board authorized the Township Solicitor's Office to attend the February 28, 2022 meeting of the Zoning Hearing Board of Springfield Township in order to defend the zoning officer's determination, and to oppose two variance requests submitted by William and Cathy Murphy, 2106 Carolton Way, for the construction of a new, single family dwelling on Carolton Way, Flourtown. At the March 7, 2022 meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Board met informally with Mr. and Mrs. Murphy and had the opportunity to learn more about the history of the lot, its unique characteristics, and the intended use and occupancy of the new dwelling.

Motion (Cobb-Standish) vote 6-0 to rescind the Board's opposition to the zoning petition submitted by William and Cathy Murphy, 2106 Carolton Way, based upon representations made by the Murphys at the March 7, 2022 meeting of the Board of Commissioners. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy must still appear before the Zoning Hearing Board to present their case.

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

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

Motion (Ratsavong-Cobb) vote 6-0 to adopt Resolution No. 1564, a resolution authorizing an application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Local Share Account Grant Program for the project known as the 1725 Walnut Avenue Park Redevelopment Project. The proposal is in the amount of \$1 million and would fund the remediation and demolition of any structures located on site, as well as a portion of the earthwork, landscaping and associated improvement costs associated with the creation of a park at the site of the former Tank Car Corporation of America, 1725 Walnut Avenue, Oreland.

Motion (Ratsavong-Cobb) vote 6-0 to adopt Resolution No. 1565, a resolution authorizing application to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for the projects known as the 1725 Walnut Avenue Master Plan, and Phase II of the Walnut Avenue Pedestrian Trail project. The proposal is in the amount of \$25,000 for the Master Plan, and \$175,000 for the Trail project.

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

Motion (Wilson-Maxwell) vote 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor  
Secretary/Manager