

MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, May 8, 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, with the exception of Ms. McNamara. Commissioner Lee presided.

Mr. Lee asked Mr. Taylor if any remote public comments were received prior to the meeting. Mr. Taylor reported on one public comment received regarding alleged illegal business activity on Grove Avenue.

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-Cobb) 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 McNamara due to a family obligation. Mr. Lee noted that Ian Hammer, Public Works Director, and Police Chief Michael Pitkow were also in attendance.

Mr. Lee announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session as part of its May 6, 2024 workshop meeting to discuss two litigation matters.

Mr. Lee invited Sharon Vecchione, President, and Amanda Helwig, President-Elect of the Springfield Township Rotary Club, to join Commissioner Ratsavong at the front of the room. The Rotarians presented a donation check in the amount of \$32,000 for the construction of a pavilion as part of the Cisco Park Playground Renovation project. The pavilion is to be named in honor of William Piszek who was very active in the Rotary Club for over 20 years.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners and Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, Ms. Ratsavong thanked the Rotary Club for their donation.

Mr. Lee invited Chief Michael Pitkow to the front of the room to conduct a commendation ceremony to recognize members of the police department who have demonstrated significant initiative, intelligence or ability as part of his or her police duties and contributed to the safety of the Springfield Township community. Chief Pitkow described the different types of commendations that will be presented to the officers. The following police personnel were recognized for major incidents that occurred in 2023:

- Commendatory Letters to Sgt. Whitney, Officer Fantry, Officer Litwinowicz, Officer Donnelly, Sgt. Wilbur and Lt. Mersky;

- Unit Citations to Sergeant Badolato, Cpl. Kauffman, Officer Tauscher, Officer Lopez,
- Commendations of Merit to Detectives Baiada and Craig
- Highway Safety Award – Officer Gross

Mr. Lee opened the meeting to public comment.

George Kostyk, Flourtown, addressed the Board with regard to alleged illegal business activities taking place at 40 and 42 Grove Avenue. Mr. Kostyk urged the Board to uphold the decision of the Zoning Hearing Board and the recommendation of the Planning Commission in this regard. Mr. Lee informed Mr. Kostyk that the Board authorized a settlement agreement with the property owner. Mr. Garrity summarized the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

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

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

Motion (Wilson-May) vote 5-1, Cobb opposed, to adopt Resolution No. 1641 granting preliminary/final approval for a 2-lot residential subdivision located at 210 Sunnybrook Road, Flourtown. The project consists of the demolition of an existing single family detached dwelling and adjacent garage to create two equal lots of 0.215 acres each. No new construction or vegetation removal is permitted until a land development plan is approved by Springfield Township in accordance with the Springfield Township Code.

Mr. Garrity clarified this approval is for the subdivision of land only and made it clear that no construction or vegetation removal is permitted.

Mr. Cobb commented on the lack of candor by the applicant during the entire process. He indicated his preference for a land development application to be considered simultaneously with the subdivision plan rather than separately.

Motion (Wilson-May) vote 6-0, to accept a letter dated May 6, 2024 from Gerald Rath, Esq., on behalf of the owners of real property located at 40 and 42 Grove Avenue, Flourtown, extending the 90-day subdivision/land development plan review period through June 13, 2024. The subject of the application is a lot line adjustment that proposes to transfer 2,936 square feet of land 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.

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

Motion (Cobb-Ratsavong) vote 6-0 to approve the April check reconciliation in the amount of \$1,144,917.26, and the May bill listing in the amount of \$942,751.59.

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Monday, May 20, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb read into

the record 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.

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

Motion (Ratsavong-Cobb) vote 6-0 to reappoint Lee Abberley, Adrienne Smythe and Nick Matteo to new, three-year terms of service, expiring May 12, 2027, as members of the Springfield Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee, and to appoint Charles Wattley, Director of Operations for the School District of Springfield Township, to fill an unexpired term of service as one of two school district appointees on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. Mr. Wattley's unexpired term of service shall end May 12, 2026.

Motion (Ratsavong-Wilson) vote 6-0, to grant permission to the Arthur V. Savage American Legion Post of Wyndmoor to utilize Veterans Park for a community day event following the annual Memorial Day Parade, and to serve beer at the park as part of the event. The permission is granted subject to the following: (1) the American Legion Post secures a permit for the use of the park, (2) the American Legion Post hires a police detail to be at the park while beer is served, and (3) the American Legion Post secures an insurance rider for the day's events naming Springfield Township as an additional insured.

Ms. Ratsavong summarized the various activities to take place in Wyndmoor associated with the Memorial Day holiday.

Ms. Ratsavong also announced that a memorial service will be held at the Flourtown-Erdenheim Veterans Memorial on Bethlehem Pike, Flourtown, at 12:30 PM on Memorial Day.

Motion (Ratsavong-Cobb) vote 6-0 to grant permission to the Arthur V. Savage American Legion Post of Wyndmoor to utilize Veterans Park for a flag retirement ceremony on Flag Day, June 14, 2024, at 5:00 PM. Permission was granted with the condition that the American Legion Post secures an insurance rider for the event naming Springfield Township as an additional insured.

Ms. Ratsavong noted that future permits of this nature would be granted administratively, but that efforts would be made to provide a public announcement in advance of the ceremony.

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

Mr. May announced that during the month of April 2024, Springfield Township residents recycled 160.4 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 80.0%. The net cost for the month was \$21,524.31.

Mr. May made an announcement that packing materials such as plastic air packs, bubble wrap, plastic bags, and Polystyrene (Styrofoam) packaging are contaminants that must be removed from cardboard boxes before they can be recycled.

Motion (May-Wilson) vote 6-0 to appoint Ben Schimeneck and Alex Waldman as associate members of the Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission.

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

Motion (Morris-Wilson) vote 6-0 to award a contract to Ply-Mar Construction Company, Inc. of Plymouth Meeting, PA, for the Integrity Avenue stormwater detention basin project for their low bid price of \$267,545. Mr. Morris summarized the work to be performed.

Motion (Morris-Wilson) vote 6-0 to authorize the advertisement of bids for the Skyline Drive Stormwater Detention Basin Project. Mr. Morris summarized the general scope of work including the re-establishment of a berm adjacent to Rorer Street, replacement of the existing outlet structure, elimination of a low flow channel, and the installation of landscaping.

Motion (Morris-May) vote 6-0 to authorize the sale of various used vehicles and equipment via the Municibid on-line public auction site. Mr. Morris listed the vehicles and equipment to be sold as follows:

2006 Caterpillar 248 Skid Steer Loader	2000 International 7400 Brine Truck	2000 International 4900 Dump Truck
2000 International 4900 Sewer Truck	2005 International 7400 Dump Truck	2003 Chevrolet K3500 Utility Body Truck

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

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

Ms. Ratsavong announced that on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Library building, she will be hosting a meeting for residents in the low lying area of Hull Drive and Marshall Road to voice their concerns regarding stormwater runoff in their neighborhood.

Motion (May-Cobb) vote 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor
Secretary