

MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, July 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, with the exception of Mr. Morris. Commissioner Lee presided.

Mr. Lee asked Mr. Taylor if any remote public comments were received prior to the meeting. Mr. Taylor reported that no public 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-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 announced that Mr. Morris was absent due to a pre-planned family vacation.

Please announce that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session prior to this evening's business meeting to discuss two matters of litigation.

Mr. Lee invited Police Chief Michael Pitkow and Magisterial District Justice Kate McGill to the front of the room. Chief Pitkow summarized the hiring process for police officers, and introduced Younes Boujida, a newly hired Springfield Township police officer. Chief Pitkow provided a brief background of Officer Boujida. District Justice McGill administered the oath of office to Officer Boujida.

Mr. Lee announced that as part of this evening's business meeting, the Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on a proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 4 (Amusement Devices) and Chapter 114 (Zoning) of the Code of the Township of Springfield. The purpose of the proposed ordinance is to regulate the placement of Amusement Devices in the Township.

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

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

Mr. Lee announced that every two years the Montgomery County Department of Public Safety requires municipalities to review and update their local Emergency Management Plans.

Motion (Lee-Ratsavong) vote 6-0, to adopt Resolution No. 1644, a resolution adopting the January 2024 Springfield Township Emergency Operations Plan.

Motion (Lee-Cobb) vote 6-0 to authorize the execution of a Mutual Aid Agreement for emergency services among 25 local municipalities and 21 non-municipal partners, including 5 educational and healthcare institutions and 2 utility providers. The intent of the agreement is to coordinate and formalize an arrangement by which trained personnel, equipment and other resources may be assembled to address an emergency incident that an individual municipality could not respond to on its own.

Motion (Wilson-McNamara) vote 6-0 to suspend the July 10, 2024 Business Meeting of the Board of Commissioners in order to conduct a Public Hearing on a proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 4 (Amusement Devices) and Chapter 114 (Zoning) of the Code of the Township of Springfield, regulating the placement of amusement devices.

Motion (Wilson-Cobb) vote 6-0 to convene a public hearing on the proposed ordinance regulating the placement of amusement devices.

The Board of Commissioners conducted a public hearing.

Motion (May-Ratsavong) vote 6-0 to close the public hearing related to the ordinance amending the code with regard to amusement devices, and reconvene the July 10, 2024 business meeting of the Board of Commissioners

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

Motion (Wilson-McNamara) vote 6-0 to enact Ordinance No. 978, an ordinance amending the Code of the Township of Springfield, Chapter 4 (Amusement Devices) and Chapter 114 (Zoning) to amend the definition of Amusement Device, to add the term Amusement Device, and to add Amusement Device as a permitted use in the Shopping Center Zoning District, and as a permitted use when authorized by a special exception in the B-2 Business Zoning District.

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

Motion (Cobb-McNamara) vote 6-0 to approve the June check reconciliation in the amount of \$1,100,598.54 and the July bill listing in the amount of \$914,578.35.

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Monday, July 22, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb summarized the agenda and announced that copies of the applications and plans are on file in the Community Development Office.

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

Motion (Ratsavong-Cobb) vote 6-0 to waive the requirement that 75% of the participants in a league utilizing Township facilities must be Township residents in order that the Next Play Summer Basketball League may utilize the basketball courts at McKelvie Park. The waiver is granted for the use of the facility in accordance with a permit request form dated July 1, 2024 for dates beginning July 11, 2024 through August 15, 2024. Use of the facilities is limited to 4:30 PM to 9 PM on specified weekday evenings.

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

Mr. May announced that during the month of June 2024, Springfield Township residents recycled 148.9 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 68.7%. The net cost for the month was \$17,575.33.

Mr. May reminded residents that electronic waste is not suitable for collection by the Township. Mr. May directed residents to the Township website for instructions on how to properly dispose of these and other household items.

Motion (May-Cobb) vote 6-0, to engage the services of Architecture & Engineering Innovations, Lancaster, PA to conduct a structural analysis of the police/ administration and public works buildings to determine the suitability of each structure for the attachment of roof-mounted solar panels. The cost of the work shall not exceed \$2,380.

Motion (May-Ratsavong) vote 6-0 to appoint Alex Waldman to an unexpired term of service as a regular member of the Environmental Advisory Commission. Ms. Waldman's term of service shall expire June 14, 2027.

Mr. May announced that the Board was asked to consider authorizing a letter of support to the PA Public Utility Commission on behalf of 7 boroughs requesting a Declaratory Order to implement Community Choice Aggregation. Mr. May recommended that the Board table this matter and refer it to the Environmental Advisory Commission for review.

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

Motion (McNamara-Cobb) vote 6-0 to authorize the execution of an Additional Services Agreement (#12) with BL Companies, Inc. to perform groundwater sampling at the former Tank Car Corporation of America property, 1725 Walnut Avenue, Oreland. The purpose of the sampling activities is to document the presence and migration patterns, if any, of volatile organic compounds in the vicinity of three (3) existing groundwater monitoring wells (#6, 9 and 11) on the west side of the property near Oreland Mill Road. The total cost of the work is \$5,800.

Mr. Cobb clarified that the subject testing is mandated by PA DEP.

Motion (McNamara-Ratsavong) vote 6-0 to authorize the sale of the following pieces of used equipment via the Municibid on-line public auction site:

- 2000 Bandit woodchipper attachment
- DeWalt 16" radial arm saw
- Miscellaneous used equipment valued at less than \$1,000

Motion (McNamara-May) vote 6-0 to authorize the purchase of a new, John Deere Model 544G rubber tire wheel loader from Groff Tractor & Equipment pursuant to the Pennsylvania COSTARS contract Quote #4400028107. The cost of the new equipment is \$205,808, less the trade in of a 1998 Caterpillar Model IT28G rubber tire wheel loader

and an American Coupler System 4 cubic yard bucket collectively valued at \$22,500, for a net cost of \$183,308.

Motion (McNamara-Ratsavong) vote 6-0 to reappoint Jennifer Ponce, Lee Kowalski and Matt Johnson, to new, three-year terms of service as members of the Springfield Township Shade Tree Commission. The new, three-year terms of service shall expire on July 13, 2027. It was noted that Ms. Ponce is a full member of the Commission, while Messrs. Johnson and Kowalski are alternate members.

Motion (McNamara-Wilson) vote 6-0 to authorize the Township Manager to enter into an agreement between Springfield Township and Michael and Jennifer Cathey, 1068 Daniel Drive, Dresher, to lease Suite F of the Black Horse Inn. The base rent is \$900 per month plus utilities.

Motion (McNamara-Ratsavong) vote 6-0, to authorize the execution of a Declaration of Easement Concerning Stormwater Facilities between PNC Bank, NA, Jeffrey Idler, Trustees of That Certain Trust Under the Will of Robert N. Carson, Deceased, and their Successors in Trust, and Springfield Township, for two stormwater management detention basins, berms, surface swales and related facilities located within a 3.47-acre easement area as depicted on a plan prepared by Boucher & James, Inc., entitled "Basin Easement Exhibit" dated October 16, 2015. The Declaration memorializes a Grant of Easement in favor of Springfield Township, along with construction and maintenance responsibilities, restrictions and indemnification provisions.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Ms. McNamara thanked the Carson Trust for allowing the Township to utilize the land to construct the stormwater detention facilities.

Mr. Lee announced that there is no report for the Cultural Resources Committee.

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

Motion (Ratsavong-May) vote 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Michael Taylor
Secretary/Manager