

MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, August 14, 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 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) 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 the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session as part of its workshop meeting on Monday, August 12, 2024 to discuss one real estate matter.

Mr. Lee announced the passing of retired Police Sergeant Raymond Potter. Sergeant Potter was a Springfield Township police officer from 1970 to 2018 and was a mentor for many of the current police officers. In addition to his 48 years of service to the Springfield Township community, Sergeant Potter was a veteran of the United States Air Force. On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Lee offered condolences to Sergeant Potter's wife and children.

Mr. Lee announced that the Montgomery County Consortium of Communities, on behalf of 13 participating municipalities, including Springfield Township, will be conducting a written examination and physical agility assessment for entry level police officers on Saturday, September 7, 2024 at the Springfield Township High School. Interested candidates were instructed on how to apply to take the test.

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

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

Motion (Lee-Ratsavong) carried unanimously to waive section 3303.1 (12) of the Springfield Township Fire Prevention Code in order that the North Hills Country Club may conduct a professional fireworks display on Sunday evening, September 1, 2024 at approximately 8:15 PM as part of the Club's annual Labor Day celebration. The waiver was conditioned upon the following: 1) the pyrotechnical firm and North Hills Country Club shall add Springfield Township as an additional insured on their certificates of insurance for the event; and 2) the pyrotechnical firm and the North Hills Country Club

shall work closely with the Springfield Township Fire Marshal and Oreland Fire Company to help prevent an accident and to create a plan of action in the event that an accident does occur during the activity.

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

Motion (Wilson-McNamara) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1645, a resolution granting a waiver to the formal land development review process in order that the School District of Springfield Township may construct a shotput pad site, high jump, bleachers and walking paths at the Springfield Middle School property. The waiver is conditioned upon the installation of a landscape buffer adjacent to the Bergan Road properties by the spring of 2025, and the completion of on-site parking improvements to discourage school visitors from parking on Bergan Road when events are conducted at the school.

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

Motion (Cobb-Wilson) carried unanimously to approve the July check reconciliation in the amount of \$910,583.26 and the August bill listing in the amount of \$683,812.74.

Motion (Cobb-McNamara) carried unanimously to designate Commissioner Edward H. Morris to serve as the legislative liaison for the Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township. The purpose of a legislative liaison is to remain informed about proposed legislation that may impact local communities, and to communicate those impacts to elected officials in the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

Mr. Cobb announced that under cover letter of July 23, 2024, Megan McDonough informed the Board of Commissioners that it was necessary for her to resign her position as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board. On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Cobb thanked Mrs. McDonough for serving the Springfield community over the past 22 years.

Motion (Cobb-Morris) carried unanimously to appoint James Brown to fill Mrs. McDonough's unexpired term as a member of the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Brown's term of service will expire December 31, 2026. Mr. Brown currently serves as the alternate member of the zoning hearing board.

As a result of Mr. Brown's appointment, Mr. Cobb announced there is a vacancy as the alternate member of the zoning hearing board. An alternate member attends and may participate in the regular meetings of the zoning hearing board but casts a vote only when a regular member must recuse themselves or is absent from a meeting. Interested residents were encouraged to submit a cover letter and resume to the attention of Michael Taylor, Springfield Township Manager.

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Monday, August 26, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb

summarized the Zoning Hearing Board Agenda and announced that 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:

Ms. Ratsavong announced that the Board of Commissioners and Recreation Center Advisory Committee are in the process of scheduling three (3) public meetings to educate and obtain feedback from the community about the Recreation Center Master Plan. Ms. Ratsavong encouraged residents to monitor the Township website and social media accounts for more information as meeting dates are confirmed.

Ms. Ratsavong commented that the new playground at Cisco Park looks great, and a ribbon cutting ceremony is being planned to take place over the next month or so, and again encouraged residents to monitor the Township website and social media accounts to keep informed.

Ms. Ratsavong also announced that Community Day is scheduled to take place at Cisco Park on October 6, 2024.

An announcement was also made that Rep. Nelson would be holding a Town Hall at the Springfield Township Library on August 15, beginning at 6:30 PM.

Ms. Ratsavong stated that the Wyndmoor Hose Company recently mailed their annual appeal for donations and encouraged residents to consider making a donation to their local fire company.

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

Mr. May announced that during the month of July 2024, Springfield Township residents recycled 176.1 tons of material with a householder participation rate of 58.9%. The net cost for the month was \$15,429.36.

Mr. May encouraged residents to practice “grass-cycling”. Grass-cycling is the practice of leaving grass clippings on one’s lawn to naturally decompose and add nutrients. The clippings act as a fertilizer supplement and mulch for lawns. Grass-cycling also reduces the use of plastic bags for disposal and reduces the amount of refuse that must be disposed by the Township at the present cost of \$79.00 per ton.

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

Motion (McNamara-May) carried unanimously to award a contract to Ply Mar Construction Company, Inc. of Plymouth Meeting, PA for their low bid price of \$164,430 to complete the Skyline Drive Stormwater Detention Basin project. On June 27, 2024 the Township opened bids for the project and only one bid was received. Ms. McNamara announced that prior to issuing a Notice to Proceed to the contractor, the Township

Engineer will review the unit prices and quantities to ensure that the final cost of work closely aligns with the final plans.

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 (May-Wilson) carried unanimously to adjourn at 7:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor
Secretary/Manager