

MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, October 9, 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 remote 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-May) 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 noted that Scott Denlinger was in attendance representing the Township Solicitor's office.

Mr. Lee announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session as part of its workshop meeting on Monday, October 7, 2024 to discuss one personnel matter.

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

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

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

Motion (Wilson-McNamara) vote 6-1; Cobb opposed, to adopt Resolution No. 1648, a resolution granting preliminary/final land development approval for the construction of two, new single-family detached dwellings at a property located at 210 Sunnybrook Road, Flourtown. The plan includes the demolition of an existing 1,445 square foot dwelling and 215 square foot accessory garage to construct the new dwellings and related improvements. Prior to recording the plans, the developer shall revise the plans to resolve, to the satisfaction of the Township, all issues set forth in the Engineer's review letters dated August 29, 2024 and September 11, 2024.

Mr. Cobb stated he will not be voting in favor of the Resolution as he is disappointed that the developer did not engage with the neighborhood throughout the planning process. He acknowledged that the developer has met all township code requirements.

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

Motion (Cobb-McNamara) carried unanimously to approve the September check reconciliation in the amount of \$791,565.09 and the October bill listing in the amount of \$1,252,636.22.

Mr. Cobb announced the 2025 budget meeting schedule as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Budget Workshop	10/16/2024	7:00 PM
Budget Presentation	11/13/2024	7:30 PM
Budget Hearing	12/11/2024	7:30 PM
Budget Adoption	12/11/2024	7:30 PM

All meetings will be held at the Springfield Township Building, 1510 Paper Mill Road, Wyndmoor PA 19038.

Motion (Cobb-McNamara) carried unanimously to authorize increases to the hourly rates charged by the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor, Township Solicitor and Township Engineer. Mr. Cobb listed the various categories and their increases.

Motion (Cobb-McNamara) carried unanimously to reappoint Bee, Bergvall and Company, Certified Public Accountants, to audit the Township's financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2024, consistent with the audit engagement letter dated September 26, 2024. The cost of the engagement is \$21,500 plus an alternate in the amount of \$4,800 to compile the pension activity for the four pension funds.

Mr. Wilson asked how long we have been utilizing Bee Bergvall. Mr. Taylor answered that it has been at least 27 years. Mr. Wilson asked if it would be prudent to issue a Request for Proposals for the audit work. Mr. Taylor indicated there are only a handful of firms that perform the work and they all charge about the same amount for their work. Mr. Taylor suggested it can be considered next year if the Board is interested in doing so.

Motion (Cobb-Ratsavong) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1649, a resolution distributing the annual state allocation to the Springfield Township municipal pension plans in compliance with Pennsylvania Act 205 of 1984, the Municipal Pension Funding Standard and Recovery Act. State aid in the amount of \$629,155.52 was deposited into the Township's concentration account on September 25, 2024, and will be distributed among the Township's pension plans using a formula provided by the Township's pension actuary.

Motion (Cobb-Ratsavong) vote 5-2; Cobb and Wilson opposed, to appoint by resolution Michael Davey, Wyndmoor, to fill an unexpired term of service as the alternate member of the Zoning Hearing Board of Springfield Township. The unexpired term of service shall expire December 31, 2024.

Mr. Cobb advocated for the appointment of James Dailey as the alternate member of the Zoning Hearing Board. He commented on Mr. Dailey's past experience as a Commissioner and as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board and believes that the Zoning Hearing Board and the Township would benefit from Mr. Dailey's experience and institutional knowledge.

Mr. Wilson echoed Mr. Cobb’s statements and noted that Mr. Dailey has an extensive background and knowledge of the Township Zoning Code.

Ms. Ratsavong stated she is in favor of new voices and new ideas on the advisory boards and therefore will vote in favor of appointing Mr. Davey as the alternate member.

Mr. Cobb announced that the Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Monday, October 28, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb summarized the Zoning Hearing Board agenda and announced that copies of all applications 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 the schedule of public meetings related to the Recreation Center Master Planning process, as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Public Comment/Information Gathering Workshop	Wednesday, October 23	6:00 PM	Recreation Center
Follow-up Information and Public Comment Meeting	Wednesday, November 20	6:00 PM	Township Building

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

Mr. May announced that during the month of September 2024, Springfield Township residents recycled 141.2 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 76.1%. The net cost for the month was \$18,089.72.

Mr. May announced that State Sen. Art Haywood and State Rep. Napoleon Nelson will be hosting a free paper shredding, medication disposal, & E-waste recycling event on Saturday, October 19, 2024 at the Springfield Township High School from 10 AM to 1 PM.

Motion (May-Ratsavong) carried unanimously to authorize the advertisement of an ordinance to amend Chapter 72 “Recycling” of the Township Code by adding a definition for “Community Activities”. While reviewing the Township’s annual recycling performance grant application for the calendar year ending December 31, 2023, the Department of Environmental Protection requested that a definition be added consistent with Act 101 of 1988, the Waste Planning, Recycling and Reduction Act.

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

Motion (McNamara-Morris) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1650 authorizing application to the “PECO Green Region Open Space Program – Bonus Round” for the purchase of a Ford F-150 all-electric pick-up truck to be utilized by the Springfield Township Police Department.

Motion (McNamara-Cobb) carried unanimously to authorize the appropriate Township officials to execute a Stormwater Facilities Easement Agreement with the Paper Mill Estates Community Association to complete modifications to an existing stormwater detention basin owned and maintained by the Association. The agreement grants to the Township a temporary construction easement and permanent inspection and maintenance easement, and clarifies the future maintenance obligations for the Township and Association.

Mr. Morris, Chairman of the Cultural Resources Committee, reported:

Motion (Morris-Ratsavong) carried unanimously to appoint Lee Abberley to fill an unexpired term of service as a member of the Springfield Township Library Advisory Committee. Dr. Abberley's term of service shall expire December 31, 2026. Mr. Morris explained that Dr. Abberley is a member of the School District Board of Directors and that the by-laws of the Library Advisory Committee state that one member of the Board of Directors of the School District of Springfield Township shall serve as a member of the committee.

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

Motion (May-Morris) carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor
Secretary