

MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in a regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, May 14, 2025 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. 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-McNamara) vote 7-0 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 acknowledged the presence of several Township employees in the audience.

Mr. Lee announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session as part of their May 12, 2025 workshop meeting to discuss one real estate and one litigation matter.

Mr. Lee acknowledged the efforts of the local Girl Scouts of America who celebrated Earth Day 2025 by collecting litter and removing trash from several Township parks and public properties. The park cleanup activities are a simple, yet impactful way to promote environmental stewardship and community involvement. The activity also provides an opportunity for girls to develop leadership skills, teamwork and a sense of responsibility for the planet. Troops 7211, 71526, 7435, 7814, 7119, 7121, 71065 and 706 were specifically recognized for their efforts.

Mr. Lee invited Carol Taylor, retired Office Manager, to join Commissioner Cobb at the front of the room. Mr. Cobb read into the record Resolution No. 1665 recognizing and thanking Carol Taylor for her 42 years of service to Springfield Township.

Motion (Cobb-May) vote 7-0 to adopt Resolution No. 1665.

Mr. Cobb read into the record citations from State Senator Art Haywood and State Representative Napoleon Nelson honoring Carol Taylor for her service to the community.

Mr. Lee asked Mr. Cobb to read into the record Resolution No. 1666 recognizing and thanking Charles Baily, retired Code Enforcement Officer/Fire Marshal, for his 17 years of service to Springfield Township. Mr. Lee announced that Baily could not be in attendance this evening.

Motion (Cobb-McNamara) vote 7-0 to adopt Resolution No. 1666.

Mr. Cobb noted that citations were also received from State Senator Art Haywood and State Representative Napoleon Nelson honoring Charles Baily for his service.

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

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

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

Motion (Wilson-May) vote 7-0 to authorize the advertisement of an ordinance amending the Springfield Township Code Chapter 114 (Zoning) to add a new article entitled “Small Wireless Communication Facilities” to regulate the placement of small wireless communication facilities in Springfield Township. The proposed ordinance is consistent with Pennsylvania Act 50 of 2021 and sets forth standards for deploying small cell infrastructure while preserving local authority over rights of way. Copies of the proposed ordinance will be made available for examination during normal business hours at the offices of Montgomery Newspapers, the Montgomery County Law Library, the Office of the Township Manager, and the Free Library of Springfield Township. Copies of the proposed ordinance will also be made available on the Township’s website prior to the next regular meeting of the Springfield Township Planning Commission, at which time the planners will review the ordinance.

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

Motion (Cobb-May) vote 7-0 to approve the April check reconciliation in the amount of \$1,376,100.16 and the May bill listing in the amount of \$1,236,690.36.

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Thursday, May 29, 2025 in the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb summarized two Zoning Hearing Board petitions 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.

Motion (Cobb-Wilson) vote 7-0 to authorize the Office of the Township Solicitor to represent the interests of the Board at any and all future meetings of the Zoning Hearing Board of Springfield Township to defend the actions of the Township Zoning Officer as well as the validity of the Township’s Zoning Ordinance, and to oppose a variance from Section 114-91 of the Springfield Township Zoning Code to permit the placement of three (3) amusement devices within the Oreland Market, 1339 Bruce Road, Oreland.

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

Motion (Ratsavong-McNamara) vote 7-0 to reappoint Christina Kerper, Neil DiFranco and Robert McGrath to new, three-year terms of service as members of the Springfield Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee. The new terms of service shall expire May 12, 2028.

Motion (Ratsavong-May) vote 7-0 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 from the Parks & Recreation Director for the use of the park, (2) the American Legion Post hires a police detail officer 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 announced that Memorial Day 2025 will be observed on Monday, May 26, 2025. The parade will begin on Willow Grove Avenue near Elm Avenue at 9:30 AM and end at Queen Street and Willow Grove Avenue. Following the parade, a remembrance ceremony will be held at approximately 11:15 AM at the Veterans Park Memorial. The Community Day activities will be held from approximately 12 PM to 3 PM on the lower fields at Veterans Park.

In addition to the Memorial Day activities that will take place in Wyndmoor, a memorial service will be held at the Flourtown-Erdenheim Veterans Memorial at 12:30 PM on Memorial Day. The Veterans Memorial is located in the 1400 block of Bethlehem Pike across from the Black Horse Inn.

Motion (Ratsavong-May) vote 7-0 to waive the requirement that 75% of the participants in a league utilizing Township facilities are Springfield 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 request to utilize the facility on specified dates beginning Thursday, July 7 through Thursday, August 14, 2025. Use of the facilities is limited to 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM, Monday through Thursday. Ms. Ratsavong noted that the Next Play Basketball League has operated successfully under similar conditions since 2021.

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

Mr. May announced that during the month of April 2025, Springfield Township residents recycled 188.88 tons of material with a householder participation rate of 63.4%. The net cost for the month was \$15,220.65.

Mr. May announced that on Sunday, May 18th, State Representatives Napoleon Nelson and Ben Sanchez will be hosting a free Paper Shredding & Electronics Recycling event. Springfield Township residents are encouraged to bring their boxes or bags of confidential paper documents as well as electronics to Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel on 8339 Old York Road in Elkins Park, PA between 10am and 12pm.

Motion (May-Ratsavong) vote 7-0 to appoint Tyler Focht to fill an unexpired term of service as a member of the Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission. Mr. Focht has been a regular attendant and contributor to the Environmental Advisory Commission with a special interest in electric vehicles. Mr. Focht's term of service shall expire June 14, 2027.

Motion (May-McNamara) vote 7-0 to authorize the advertisement and solicitation of a Request for Proposals to design, engineer and construct a roof-mounted solar photovoltaic array at the Springfield Township Municipal Campus. As part of the solicitation, respondents will be encouraged to submit under two cost proposal structures including direct ownership and a Power Purchase Agreement with an Energy Service Company. The RFP is to be issued on June 1, 2025, and responses are due July 11, 2025.

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

Motion (McNamara-May) vote 7-0 to adopt Resolution No. 1667, a resolution designating May 18-24, 2025 as National Public Works Week, and commending the performance and contributions of the individual employees of the Springfield Township Public Works Department.

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

Mr. Morris announced that the Friends of the Library will be conducting their annual used book sale on Saturday, May 31, 2025 from 10 AM to 3 PM at the Free Library of Springfield Township. A large selection of gently used fiction and non-fiction books will be available for donations of \$2 for hardback books and \$1 for paperback books.

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

Motion (Wilson-McNamara) vote 7-0, to adjourn the meeting at 8:06PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor
Manager/Secretary