

MINUTES OF MEETING  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in a regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, August 13, 2025 at 7:34 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 except Commissioner Cobb. Commissioner Lee presided.

Mr. Lee asked Mr. Taylor if any remote public comments were received prior to the meeting. Mr. Taylor reported that one public comment was received from a Wyndmoor resident who expressed his support for enacting the proposed small wireless facilities ordinance.

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) 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 the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session as part of its August 11<sup>th</sup> workshop meeting to discuss one real estate matter.

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 114 (Zoning) of the Code of the Township of Springfield. The purpose of the proposed ordinance is to add a new Article XIVB – "Small Wireless Facilities" to regulate the placement of such facilities within Springfield Township. Mr. Lee asked the audience to hold any questions or comments about the ordinance until the public hearing is conducted.

Mr. Lee read into record a prepared statement regarding immigration enforcement and the limited role of the Springfield Township Police Department in this regard. Mr. Lee indicated that immigration enforcement is a federal responsibility, and local police departments are not required to enforce federal immigration laws unless they have a formal agreement to do so. The Springfield Township Police Department has no such agreement and does not intend to enter into any such agreement in the future. The Police Department remains focused on its mission of serving and protecting all members of the Springfield Township community. Mr. Lee encouraged anyone with questions about immigration status or requiring assistance with immigration-related matters to contact a qualified legal professional or the Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center, 717-600-8099 or [www.PIRCLaw.org](http://www.PIRCLaw.org).

Ms. Ratsavong contributed additional remarks to the prepared statement by highlighting the concerns expressed by residents over federal raids and that these raids often target communities of color. She emphasized the dangers of detaining people without due process and noted that access to justice is often tied to financial and social privilege. She affirmed that the Township police will follow the law by requiring judicial warrants and will respond appropriately to any violations. Beyond constitutional duty, she stressed the importance of community care, encouraging residents to support and defend one another in whatever ways they are able. She acknowledged the fear and paralysis many people feel but urged everyone to remember their duty to both the Constitution and to humanity. She concluded her remarks by affirming that all residents, regardless of immigration status, are welcome in the community, and pledged that the Township will continue working toward broader change.

Mr. Lee opened the meeting to public comment.

Judy Patitucci, Flourtown, addressed the Board regarding the deer population at Bysher Field. Ms. Patitucci offered the use of her property to remove dangerous trees as the need may arise.

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

Motion (Lee-Ratsavong) vote 6-0 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, August 31, 2025 at approximately 8:15 PM as part of the Club's annual Labor Day celebration. The approval is 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.

Motion (Lee-McNamara) vote 6-0 to suspend the August 13, 2025 Business meeting of the Board of Commissioners and to convene a Public Hearing on a proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 114 (Zoning) of the Code of the Township of Springfield.

The Board of Commissioners conducted a public hearing.

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

Motion (Wilson-May) vote 6-0 to enact Ordinance No. 981, an ordinance amending the Code of the Township of Springfield, Chapter 114 (Zoning) by adding a new Article XIVB entitled "Small Wireless Facilities" to regulate the placement of small wireless communication facilities in Springfield Township.

Ms. Ratsavong commented that in the future the Board may consider amending the

ordinance to address insurance requirements and concerns that were raised by the local historical society, and may consider notifying property owners in the vicinity of a proposed small wireless facility that an application has been received.

Mr. May reported on behalf of Mr. Cobb, Chairman of the Administrative, Fiscal Affairs and Zoning Committee:

Motion (May-McNamara) vote 6-0 to approve the July check reconciliation in the amount of \$785,087.74 and the August bill listing in the amount of \$947,921.78.

Mr. May announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Monday, August 25, 2025 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building. Mr. May summarized the agenda and announced that copies of the applications and plans are on file in the Community Development Office.

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

Mr. May announced that during the month of July 2025, Springfield Township residents recycled 161.4 tons of material with a householder participation rate of 66.6%. The net cost for the month was \$21,652.60.

Mr. May encouraged all residents to practice “grass-cycling.” Mr. May explained that grass-cycling refers to the practice of leaving grass clippings on one’s lawn to naturally decompose and add nutrients. Mr. May observed that grass clippings are 80% or more water and have high nitrogen content. Grass clippings break down easily and are returned to the soil within one to two weeks. The clippings also 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 of by the Township at the present cost of \$82.75 per ton.

Mr. Lee noted that the agenda item concerning a proposed Memorandum of Understanding with the Friends of Mermaid Park was tabled at their request. The Friends would like to review the document more closely and offer comments for consideration by the Board of Commissioners.

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

Motion (McNamara-May) vote 6-0 to authorize the appropriate Township officials to execute an agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for Springfield Township to provide winter maintenance on specified state highways within Springfield Township. The term of the agreement is five (5) years with five (5) additional one (1) year renewals. The base rate for the first year of the agreement is \$74,033.27 and increases to \$80,135.99 in the final year of the initial five-year renewal.

Motion (McNamara-Wilson) vote 6-0 to authorize the execution of a lease extension and amendment with Sandra B. Worthington, PC, trading as Worthington Law, for the

occupancy of office space at the Black Horse Inn, 1432 Bethlehem Pike, Flourtown. The term of the lease shall be December 1, 2025 through November 30, 2026, during which period the base rent shall be \$950 per month.

Motion (McNamara-Wilson) vote 6-0 to authorize the Township Manager to execute a Multiple Listing Agreement with Dan Helwig, Inc. to market and secure tenants for office suite "F" at the Black Horse Inn, 1432 Bethlehem Pike, Flourtown. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, Dan Helwig Realtors shall serve as the Township's Broker and Agent and shall receive compensation during the term of the Agreement in an amount equal to one month's rent, which shall be shared with any cooperating broker pursuant to the Terms of the Agreement. The Agreement shall expire December 31, 2025.

Motion (McNamara-Ratsavong) vote 6-0 to table action on a proposed amendment to the lease for the Flourtown Country Club so that the Township may respond to comments received on Monday evening. Ms. McNamara noted that the Flourtown Country Club was responsive to questions raised by the Township, however, the Commissioners need time to organize the responses that were received.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor  
Manager/Secretary