

# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



## TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

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### MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 26, 2007

**OPENING OF MEETING:** The regularly scheduled bi-monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Vaughan, at 7:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Building located at 2800 Shillington Road, Cornwall Terrace, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

The meeting opened with the Pledge to the Flag.

Upon roll call, Messrs. Dallas, Dettra, Kreider, Templin and Vaughan were present. Also present were: James Lillis, Esquire, Lt. Shivers, Officer Makosh, Officer Johnson, James Moll, Tracy Daniels, Sheryl Kressler, William Hanson, Randy Templin, Lucas Templin, Jack Sweitzer, Bill and Denise Trout, Jeff Chapman and family, Robert Neubert, Danny Neubert, Mary Pat Neubert, Susan Quigley (court reporter), and Erin Negley of the Reading Eagle.

#### **POLICE AWARD PRESENTATION:**

As a result of extensive testing, Officer Makosh, Senior Firearms Instructor for the Township Police Department, presented a certificate to Officer Robert Johnson, for exceptional improvement in this area and Lt. Shivers as best overall, displaying continued proficiency in the use of all firearms. Congratulations were offered to both men by the Supervisors.

#### **OPEN TO THE FLOOR:**

**Bill Hanson, 2615 Garfield Avenue:** Mr. Hanson reported safety issues with traffic signals at Iroquois Avenue and Rt. 724 and Penn Avenue at Pizza Hut. Although Rt. 724 and Penn Avenue are PennDOT roads, Chairman Vaughan will ensure that the signals are functioning correctly, as per PennDOT regulations.

### PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSALS TO MODIFY THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRING AGRICULTURAL SECURITY AREA PLAN 7:30 P.M.

Solicitor Lillis commenced the public hearing for consideration of applications for inclusion of the Trout properties, located at 730 Grings Hill Road and 819 Grings Hill Road, in the Township Agricultural Security Area. Once included within the Agricultural Security Area, the properties will be afforded certain privileges and protection, to some extent, from condemnation actions by the municipality or state.

Testimony and evidence were entered into the stenographic records. A copy of the transcript will be incorporated, by reference, into these Minutes when completed, and available for inspection in the Engineering and Planning Services Department of the Township of Spring Municipal Building.

In addition, research indicates that properties owned by Veeder and DeSimone had been deemed to be included in the Agricultural Area several years ago by the Agricultural Security Area Committee, albeit not by formal motion of the Board of Supervisors. These properties will be included in the proposed Resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Templin, second by Mr. Kreider, to adjourn the public hearing at 7:50 p.m. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

**Agricultural Security Area – Resolution #2007-31:** A motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Templin, adopting Resolution #2007-31, for inclusion of the aforementioned properties in the Agricultural Security Area, as identified by tax parcel numbers on Exhibit A of the Resolution. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

**At this time, Chairman Vaughan recognized and welcomed the Boy Scouts who were observing the meeting.**

**MINUTES:** A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Templin, approving Budget Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2007, and Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2007. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively with the exception of Mr. Vaughan, who abstained on the Minutes of November 13, 2007.

**OPERATIONS:**

**Business Office:**

**Bills for Approval:** Mr. Dettra made a motion, second by Mr. Templin, approving payment of bills, from various Township accounts, as listed by the Township Treasurer:

General Fund - \$229,654.08  
Refuse Tax Fund - \$92,363.31  
Sewer District #2 Fund - \$422.40  
Sewer District #3 Fund – \$65,233.30  
Fire Protection Fund - \$47,408.47  
Recreation Fund - \$19,395.27

Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively with the exception of Mr. Kreider, who abstained on Check No. 65895 and Mr. Vaughan, who abstained on Check No. 065943.

**Financial Reports:** All members received copies of the current financial reports.

**2008 Proposed Budget:** Township Treasurer, Tracy Daniels, recommended adoption of the proposed 2008 budget as follows: 2008 Total Budget - \$38,796,120.00, a 25% increase from 2007, due to anticipated capital building and sewer projects beginning next year, 2008 General Budget - \$9,636,079.00, a 10% increase from 2007. There is no anticipated increase in the General Real Estate Tax of 1.5 mills; there will be a proposed increase in the Fire Protection Tax from the current .50 mills to .75 mills. All other taxes shall remain the same. A motion was made by Mr. Dettra, second by Mr. Kreider, that the 2008 proposed budget be placed on the table and open for public inspection for a period of 20 days, the same to be submitted for adoption at the meeting of the Board of Supervisors on December 27, 2007. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

**Parks and Recreation Department:**

**Offers of Employment:** By memorandum of November 21, 2007, Mrs. Houck requested that the following individuals be hired, having successfully completed the pre-employment physical, substance abuse testing and appropriate

background checks: Bradley Shade - \$14.29/hour, Andrew Kazmierczak - \$14.29/hour, and Jeffrey Weyman - \$14.29/per hour. A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, to hire the above individuals at the \$14.29/per hour rate. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

**Engineering/Planning Department:**

**Overlook Mountain – Preliminary Plan Withdrawal:** The Township has received notice of intent to withdraw the Overlook Mountain Preliminary Plan, from E. Kuser, Inc., stating that the applicant will resubmit a revised plan based on the new “Open Space” concept in the newly revised Zoning Ordinance. A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, accepting the withdrawal of the Preliminary Plan of the Overlook Mountain Subdivision. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

**Chapman – Waiver of Land Development:** On November 13, 2007, the Board of Supervisors deferred their decision on the request for a waiver of land development to construct a 15,000 square foot greenhouse on property located at 101 Forrest Drive. Subsequent to lengthy discussion, and as recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Vaughan, to waive the land development process, with conditions as listed in Mr. Moll’s memorandum to the Board of Supervisors, dated November 23, 2007:

1. That the proposal would not result in any increase or concentration in stormwater runoff generated on the property.
2. That appropriate erosion and sediment pollution control measures will be employed during the construction process.
3. That the outdoor storage of materials will be in conformance with the provisions of Section 510 of the Zoning Ordinance.
4. That the operation would not create any adverse impacts in regard to noise, dust dirt, odors or light, Sections 512, 513 and 514.
5. That adequate off-street loading area(s) will be provided, Section 705 of the Zoning Ordinance.

In addition, that security be posted for stormwater improvements, as necessary, and that there will be no moving of earth until approval of a stormwater management plan and appropriate security deposit. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively with the exception of Mr. Dettra, who voted no.

**Road Services Department/WWTP:**

**Sewer Rate Study – Resolution #2007-32:** As recommended by the Director of Public Works, a motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Dallas, to approve an increase in the sewer rates from an average of \$22.06 per month to \$28.58 per month, based on an average of 4,700 gallons usage per month, effective January, 2008. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. Chairman Vaughan explained that the City of Reading has increased sewer rates to the Township by 34 percent (34%) over the last two (2) years.

**Infrastructure Committee:**

**Shillington Interceptor Agreement:** As recommended by the Infrastructure Committee, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, to execute the Agreement between the Borough of Shillington, Borough of Mohnton, Township of Spring and Borough of Wyomissing for Joint Ownership and Cost Allocation for the Sanitary Sewer

Interceptor from Manhole #31, in Shillington Borough, to the John Municipal Authority of Wyomissing Valley Sewage Treatment Plant, at a cost to the Township of \$250,800.00 (6.5% of the total project). Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively, with the exception of Mr. Dettra, who abstained. The Township is responsible for the portion of the project from Manhole 377 to Manhole 411, which serves the former Borough of West Lawn.

**PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT:**

**Full-Time Administrative Assistant:** Officer-in-Charge, Lt. Joseph Shivers, brought Chief Messner's request to the Board to change Ms. Ann Correll's employment status from part-time to full-time administrative assistant. A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Templin, to approve the change in Ms. Ann Correll's employment status, effective January 1, 2008, at a rate of \$14.52/hour. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Lt. Shivers informed the Supervisors that Officer Fedorowich was admitted to the hospital today, and the Board wished him well.

**SOLICITOR:**

**Tapping Fee Ordinance #349:** A motion was made by Mr. Dettra, second by Mr. Kreider, adopting Ordinance #349, which amends Ordinance #344 and the Code of Ordinances of the Township of Spring, to clarify the imposition of Tapping Fees on commercial development. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

**Appointment of Auditing Firm:** A motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Dettra, appointing Reinsel Kuntz Leshner as the auditing firm for the Township. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

**Advertisement for Traffic Ordinance Update:** A motion was made by Mr. Dettra, second by Mr. Kreider, authorizing the advertisement of a traffic ordinance update, which will coordinate the Township traffic ordinance with the existing limitations on streets in the area formerly known as the Borough of West Lawn. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

**Prescott Estates Assumption Agreement:** A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Templin, authorizing the execution of the Prescott Estates Assumption Agreement, between the developer and Greth Homes, assuming the various rights and responsibilities under the Agreement. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

**Frances Savage – Quit-Claim Deed:** A motion was made by Mr. Dettra, second by Mr. Kreider, authorizing the Chairman to execute a Quit-Claim Deed, which conveys unto Frances Savage a parcel of 5,975.39 square feet of land, one of the lots depicted as an annexation lot on the Prescott Estates plan. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

**NEW BUSINESS:** No new business to report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** No old business to report

**WORKSHOPS/TRAINING REQUESTS:** A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Templin, approving the following workshop/training request:

**J. Houck – PRPS Park Security Workshop, December 12, 2007, at a cost of \$10.00.**

Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

There being no further business, Chairman Vaughan adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

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Sheryl Kressler, Township Secretary