

**MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 13, 2007**

OPENING OF MEETING: The regularly scheduled bi-monthly public meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Spring 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 and Vaughan were present. Mr. Templin did not attend. Also present were: James Lillis, Esquire, Leon Mazurie, Chief Messner, Fire Commissioner Schach, James Moll, Sheryl Kressler, John Roland, Gregg Bogia, John Forde, Anne Marie Eckstrom, Bob Gerber, Robert Reeser, Jean Miller, Jack Miller, Stuart Zager, Kit Fegley, Steve Bensinger, Susan Templin, Millie Zeigler, Jeff Blankenbiller, Dave Piscitelli, Patti Smith, Mrs. Ray Leininger and David Kostival of the Reading Eagle.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR:

Anne Marie Eckstrom, 425 Chapel Hill Road: Ms. Eckstrom appeared before the Board in support of Mr. Gerber, and to object to the eminent domain proceedings against his property. In response to her concerns, Chairman Vaughan explained that the location of the barn on Chapel Hill Road is considered a safety issue; the Township has received many telephone calls from worried residents, especially after the barn was enclosed, and the Township has a responsibility to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents. A report from the structural engineer is expected to provide the Supervisors with options as to how to proceed from this point. Ms. Eckstrom and 20 additional volunteers have offered to assist Mr. Gerber.

Bob Gerber, 420 Chapel Hill Road: Mr. Gerber reminded the Supervisors that in the year 1988, Chapel Hill Road was widened, on his side of the road only. It is his contention that he did not move the barn; rather the road was moved closer to the barn. Packets of information were distributed to the Supervisors by Mr. Gerber.

Robert Reeser, 2300 Jefferson Avenue: Mr. Reeser, also, appeared in support of Mr. Gerber. Chairman Vaughan pointed out to Mr. Reeser that complaints have been received from the Wilson School District Transportation Department, as well as from residents. In the past, roads in the Township, identified as safety hazards, have been improved in order to provide for public safety.

Susan Templin, 2401 Andrew Court: Referring, once again, to safety issues, Ms. Templin brought the dangerous intersection at Hain Road and Old Fritztown Road to the attention of the Supervisors. She was informed that the Township has taken the necessary steps to remedy the situation. On another matter, Ms. Templin advised the Supervisors that a resident of Werner Farm is driving a golf cart on the streets with his children. Chief Messner will investigate.

Millie Zeigler, 4007 Deer Creek Road: Ms. Zeigler continues to experience stormwater flowing into her yard, despite her efforts to block the water. She has asked for a resolution as soon as possible. Mr. Vaughan and Mr. Moll are considering a basin or structure. However, there is a possibility that right-of-way, from the adjacent property owner, will be needed. There are PennDOT issues involved, as well. Township crews will be dispatched to her property as soon as their schedule allows.

Jeff Blankenbiller, 2902 Curtis Road: In May, Mr. Blankenbiller addressed the Board on parking problems experienced in the vicinity of Wilson High School. He asked whether any progress had been made. Chief Messner stated that the Township is in the process of hiring a Codes Enforcement Officer, and parking will be one of his responsibilities. Permitted parking is being considered. Mr. Blankenbiller presented a petition to the Board with the names of approximately 70 residents who are very frustrated with the student parking situation and the students' disrespect for the property of others. (Petition attached to these Minutes.) Chief Messner will deliver a copy of the petition to Dr. Mussoline.

Dave Piscitelli, 2807 Grandview Boulevard: Mr. Piscitelli collected names on the above mentioned petition, and those who signed complained of students throwing trash on their properties, vehicles blocking driveways, damage to residents' vehicles by student drivers, and speeding. Mr. Piscitelli said the situation worsens each year.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, approving Minutes dated July 23, 2007. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present affirmatively.

OPERATIONS:

Business Office:

Bills for Approval: Mr. Dallas made the motion, second by Mr. Kreider, approving payment of bills, from various Township accounts, as listed by the Township Treasurer:

General Fund - \$161,125.62
Fire Hydrant Tax Fund - \$49,374.00
Refuse Tax Fund - \$25,862.96
Park Capital Outlay Fund - \$1,167.40
Sewer District #2 Fund - \$23,894.14
Sewer District #3 Fund - \$489,691.40
Fire Protection Fund - \$19,100.08
Capital Fund Account - \$33,642.21
Recreation Fund - \$58,053.05

Chairman Vaughan noted the City of Reading sewer bill, in the amount of \$407,936.24, includes an 18 percent increase this year. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

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

Amendment to Performance of Billing & Revenue Collection Services Agreement – PAWC: As recommended by Mr. Mazurie, a motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Vaughan, authorizing the appropriate officer to execute an amendment to the Pennsylvania American Water Company Performance of Billing & Revenue Collection Services Agreement enabling PAWC to receive payment prior to the Township if an overpayment is received and there is an outstanding balance on an account. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Intern Employment Extended: A motion was made by Mr. Dettra, second by Mr. Kreider, extending the employment of Allison Morse, through the first college semester (2007) for approximately 6 hours per week, and during semester break from early December to early January (2007/2008), for approximately 25 hours

per week. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Enforcement Officer Position Recommendation: Four (4) applicants were interviewed by a panel consisting of Mr. Dallas, Mr. Wozniak and Mr. Mazurie. As recommended by the panel, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, to hire Randy S. Rubright, of Shillington, Pennsylvania, for the position of Enforcement Officer, at a starting salary of \$31,500.00, and upon satisfactory completion of his probation period he will receive an additional \$1,000.00 salary increment. Upon roll call all, Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Parks and Recreation Department:

Greenways and Trails Committee: As recommended by the Parks & Recreation Manager, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, appointing the following individuals to the Greenways and Trails Committee: Kerry Dunn, Barry Ulrich, Bill Semmel, George Mack, Christine Shuey, Bill Collins, Rudolf Jopp and Brenda Daelhousen, for a 5-year term (staggered terms). Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively. The committee is seeking an additional Citizen-At-Large member or a representative from the cycling community.

Comprehensive Park Plan – Request for Proposals: As requested by the Parks & Recreation Manager, a motion was made by Mr. Dettra, second by Mr. Kreider, to approve distribution of Requests for Proposals for updating the Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively. The previous plan was prepared in 1997.

Parks/Public Property Maintenance and Herbicide Applicator Position: As recommended by the Parks & Recreation Manager, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, to offer the position of Parks/Public Property Maintenance and Herbicide Applicator to Matthew Votodian, at his current salary with an annual \$500.00 bonus awarded on the anniversary date of his license, which must be obtained within twelve (12) months from the date of his appointment. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Engineering/Planning Department:

Hafer Intervilla Subdivision – Reaffirmation: The subdivision was approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 5, 2007, with the condition that outstanding invoices are to be paid to the Township. All invoices have been now been paid, however, the 90-day time limit for recording has expired. Therefore, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, to reaffirm the approval of the Hafer Intervilla Subdivision. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Mogel-Kerns Subdivision – Planning Module Resolution #2007-26: A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, approving Resolution #2007-26 for submittal of the Sewage Facility Planning Module to PennDEP and that the Township complete the appropriate sections of the Module. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

One Meridian Boulevard – Final Plan (Office and Bank Area): As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, to approve the One Meridian Boulevard Final Plan, conditioned upon the execution of an Improvements Agreement prepared to the satisfaction of the Township Solicitor. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Reading Hospital Post Acute Care Hospital – Waivers and Preliminary Plan: The Planning Commission recommended that the Board of Supervisors take the following actions:

- (1) A motion was made by Mr. Dettra, second by Mr. Dallas, granting a waiver of **Section 1005(C) – lot depth to width ratio for Lot No. 2**. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

- (2) A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, granting a waiver of **Section 1007(F)(6)(b) – maximum graded slope exceeding 3:1**. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.
- (3) A motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Dallas, granting a waiver of **Section 1007(I)(4)(c) – basin bottom slope less than the minimum 2 percent**. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.
- (4) A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Dettra, approving the Reading Hospital Post Acute Care Hospital Preliminary Plan, with the condition that all outstanding issues in the August 1, 2007 review letter from the Township Engineering and Planning Department be satisfied, and that the Stipulation be recorded to resolve the Hospital's appeal. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Holloway Minor Subdivision Final Plan – Time Extension: As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Dallas, approving an extension of time to October 14, 2007. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Royal Oaks Subdivision – Escrow Release #5: As recommended by Great Valley Consultants, a motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Dettra, approving Escrow Release #5 for the Royal Oaks Subdivision, in the amount of \$261,084.03, leaving a remaining balance of \$742,048.24. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Zager Variances – Drive-Through Bank Kiosk: Subsequent to Mr. Moll's review of the two variances requested by the applicant, (1) **Section 316(G) – front yard set back**, and (2) **Section 707(B)(3)(a) – stacking spaces**, a motion was made by Mr. Dettra, second by Mr. Kreider, recommending that the Zoning Hearing Board follow the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance to the letter of the law. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively with the exception of Mr. Dallas, who voted no.

Township Lot Line Adjustment Plan: As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, approving the Township of Spring Lot Line Adjustment Plan, which will annex a small portion of the adjacent Utilities Employees Credit Union property to Township property, and permit the Township to construct a salt storage shed. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Braun Minor Subdivision Final Plan – Reaffirmation: The 90-day time limit has expired to record the afore-mentioned plan. A motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Dallas, to reaffirm the approval of the Braun Minor Subdivision Final Plan. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Road Services Department/WWTP:

Owls Sports Club – Parking Request: The Owls Sports Club is hosting the 2007 Mid Atlantic Regional Legion Baseball Tournament from August 16, 2007 through August 20, 2007 at Owls Field. At the request of the Owls Sports Club, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, to approve temporary diagonal parking striping on Reading Boulevard between Harrison Avenue and Wilson Avenue, with the understanding that any associated costs which may be incurred by the Township will be paid by the Owls Sport Club. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Infrastructure Committee:

Steel Storage Building at the WWTP – Change Orders: As recommended by the Infrastructure Committee, a motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Dettra, approving Change Orders as follows: (1) Change Order #2 – Spotts Brothers, Contract B, provide and install an additional circuit to air compressor

(\$467.50), and return duct with duct detector system sensor with relay and remote test station (\$632.50), Total \$1,100.00

(2) Change Order #1 – Shannon A. Smith, Inc., Contract D, provide and install double wall, insulated pressure pipe vent with a class “A” stainless steel outer shell in lieu of the type “L” vent specified. Total \$944.35.

Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Holding Tank Maintenance Agreement: A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, authorizing the appropriate Township official to execute a Holding Tank Maintenance Agreement for a home, within the Township, with a failed septic system and not enough property to install an on-lot system. This Agreement covers the Township with respect to maintaining the holding tank in the proper manner. Upon roll call, call Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT:

Police Department:

Public Gathering Permits – Shocktoberfest/Jingle Bell Fest: Chief Messner and Mr. Dettra met with representatives of the Borough of Sinking Spring and Mr. Konopelski to discuss problems associated with the Apple Dumpling Festival. As a result of Mr. Konopelski’s cooperation, the Borough does not oppose issuing permits for Shocktoberfest and Jingle Bell Fest. As recommended by Chief Messner, a motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Dettra, approving the public gathering permits for Shocktoberfest and Jingle Bell Fest. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively. Chairman Vaughan was pleased that the Township offered its hand in friendship to Sinking Spring Borough.

Hiring of Police Officers: As recommended by Chief Messner, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, approving conditional offers of employment for the following four (4) individuals who have successfully completed the application process: Mark McCreary, Steven Brock, Barry Keller and Charles Miller. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively. Supervisor Dallas commented that he was quite impressed with the quality of the applicants and the thoroughness of the application process.

Vehicle Purchase Request: As requested by Chief Messner, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, approving the purchase of three (3) vehicles from The Hondru Fleet Group, Manheim, Pennsylvania, under the Pennsylvania COSTARS contract: (Budgeted items in 2007.)

One (1) 2008 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor (marked)	\$22,907.60
One (1) 2008 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor (unmarked)	\$28,825.00
One (1) 2005 Ford Expedition	\$27,694.00

Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Permanent Status for Officers Goss, Hilliard and Hlavac: Having successfully completed their probationary period, and as recommended by Chief Messner, a motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Dallas, promoting the above officers as follows: Officer Goss – from Trainee to 3rd Class, Officers Hilliard and Hlavac – from 3rd Class to 2nd Class. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Memorandum of Understanding - Council on Chemical Abuse: A motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Kreider, authorizing the appropriate Township official to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Council on Chemical Abuse, subsequent to approval by the Solicitor, with regard to selling cigarettes to minors and reimbursement of the officers’ time through a grant to the state. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

NIMS Training: Chief Messner and Fire Commissioner Schach have completed 24 hours of NIMS training. Chief Messner reported that the Township is up to date with the requirements of the Federal government.

Township of Spring Volunteer Fire Department:

July Monthly Report: Supervisors received copies of the July Monthly Report.

Kevin Angstadt Update: Fire Commissioner Schach reported that Lt. Angstadt is recovering rapidly from the Reading Hospital incident. Full recovery is expected in 2 to 3 weeks.

TSVFD Unofficial Website (TSVFD.com): To date there have been 2,180,671 hits on the website.

SOLICITOR:

UCC Ordinance Amendment #346: A motion was made by Mr. Dettra, second by Mr. Kreider, adopting Ordinance #346 amending the Township Building Code to update the codes to the 2006 editions. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Agricultural Security Area Applicants: A motion was made by Mr. Dettra, second by Mr. Kreider, approving requests from the property owners of 703 Grings Hill Road (14.69 acres) and 819 Grings Hill Road (15.32 acres) for inclusion in the Township Act 43 Agricultural Security Area. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively. This begins the process to add these properties to the roles of the Township's Act 43 Agricultural Security Area.

Weis Market – Sewage Treatment Agreement: A motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Dallas, approving a Sewage Treatment Agreement among Weis Markets, Inc., the City of Reading and the Township of Spring, which would provide capacity, through the Township sewer system to the City of Reading plant, for 4,750 gpd of initial sewage capacity and would allow for expansion of capacity for the proposed Weis Market site up to 5,000 additional gpd, limited to the specific area designated for the Weis Market development along West Wyomissing Boulevard. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

2008 Gypsy Moth Spray Suppression Program Coordinator: According to Mr. Mazurie, the Township has become infested with gypsy moths. A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, appointing Kevin Bitz as the Township's Gypsy Moth Coordinator, thereby permitting the Township to participate in the County's 2008 spraying program. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Crime Alert Berks County – STOP DUMPING ON BERKS – Resolution #2007-25: In accordance with a letter from Berks County Commissioner Gajewski, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, adopting Resolution #2007-25, encouraging citizens through the County to report anyone they see illegally dumping trash. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively. Crime Alert Berks County has a TIP program which rewards up to \$5,000.00 for tips leading to the arrest of anyone caught illegally dumping trash in Berks County. Call 1-877-373-9913 or 888-NEXT TIP. Mr. Dallas requested that this information be posted on the Township website.

Workshops/Training Requests:

A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, approving the request of Sheryl Kressler to attend the Center for Community Leadership Secretaries Focus Group meeting on August 29, 2007, and Fire Commissioner Schach's request to attend a Practical Kinesic Interview and Interrogation Class in Blue Ball, Pennsylvania. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Executive Session: Chairman Vaughan announced that an Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss matters of real estate. No action was taken.

There being no further business, Chairman Vaughan adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Sheryl Kressler, Township Secretary