

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

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MEETING MINUTES

MAY 12, 2008

OPENING OF MEETING: The regularly scheduled bi-monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Dallas, 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, Supervisors Collins, Dallas, Kreider, Smith and Vaughan were present. Also present were: James Lillis, Esquire; Leon Mazurie, Chief Ross, James Moll, Judy Houck, Sheryl Kressler, Peter Bliudzius, Ronald, Kathy and Will Keating, Harold and Tina Buck, Charles Honsberger, Jacob Hayward, Keith Stamm, Millie Ziegler, Steve Carroll, Bob Weller, Ed and Jaime Hollock, Lise Gerhard, Theodore Nowak, Steve DeLucas and Carole Duryan of the Reading Eagle.

CHECK PRESENTATION: Chief Ross accepted a check from Steve Carroll, of The Owls Sports Club, for one of the three (3) trail bikes purchased as part of the patrol bike program, recently initiated by the Township of Spring Police Department. Later in the meeting, Chief Ross thanked Mr. Vaughan for arranging for the Owls Sports Club to purchase a patrol bike.

EAGLE SCOUT RECOGNITION – Resolution #2008-13: Chairman Dallas read Resolution #2008-13 recognizing and commending William J. Keating for completing his Eagle Scout project at Red Caboose Park. “Will” secured and coordinated volunteers to assist him and designed and installed a flower bed around the entrance to the park. A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Vaughan, approving Resolution #2008-13. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. He was, also, presented with the Township of Spring Community Citizen’s Award for his achievement in earning the Eagle Scout award.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR:

Jaime and Ed Hollock, 1809 Shellbark Drive: Mrs. Hollock presented a timeline, correspondence and photos to the Supervisors regarding 816 Bare Path, a property abandoned by the residents and not properly maintained for approximately two (2) years. Mr. Hollock voiced his frustration at the length of time required to determine the rightful owner of the property. The Codes Department, Supervisors and Solicitor are well aware of the history of this issue and will continue the process of locating a responsible party to resolve the maintenance problems as quickly as possible.

Bob Weller, 1801 Shellbark Drive: Referring to the appalling condition of 816 Bare Path, Mr. Weller questioned who

pays the taxes on this property and suggested the Township take 816 Bare Path by eminent domain, renovate the house, sell the property and donate the profits to the police pension fund. There is now a property on Persimmon Drive which is an eyesore, as well. Mr. Weller contends that this situation is devaluing the neighborhood. He believes Mr. Wozniak has done an exemplary job, but it is out of his scope of work at this point.

Tina Buck, 234 Wheatfield Road: Mrs. Buck, once again, repeated her request that the Township require Mr. Greth to comply with the final plan of the Wheatfield Run development. For health reasons, she was very concerned that a port-o-potty had been placed on Lot 36B, 750 feet away from the work site. Chairman Dallas stated he would give the photograph she submitted to the Codes Department.

Millie Ziegler, 4007 Deer Creek Road: Although the Township had attempted to resolve her water problems, photographs were distributed by Mrs. Ziegler showing that the pipes were filling up with rocks and stone. Mr. Vaughan indicated that the work was scheduled to be completed within the next few weeks. In addition, she informed him of an open hole, 4-5 feet deep at the pipe crossing close to the corner of the road.

Theodore Nowak, 3703 Regency Drive: Mr. Nowak commended Mr. Rubright for his efforts in resolving the problem of a homeless person living in his car in the field behind Mr. Nowak's home. However, the situation persists after three (3) months, and he and his neighbors are concerned about health and sanitary issues. As explained by Chairman Dallas, the Notice of Violation expires at midnight, May 12, 2008. He will then be cited and given due process of the law.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Ms. Smith, approving the Minutes of April 28, 2008. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

OPERATIONS:

Business Office:

Bills for Approval: A motion was made by Kreider, second by Mr. Collins, approving payment of bills, from the following Township accounts, as listed by the Township Treasurer:

- General Fund - \$117,425.01
- Street Lighting Tax Fund - \$120.54
- Refuse Tax Fund - \$19,985.05
- Sewer District #2 Fund - \$1,394.20
- Sewer District #3 fund - \$25,627.62
- Traffic Impact Fund - \$2,747.25
- Fire Protection Fund - \$11,672.63
- Capital Fund Account - \$63,950.45
- Sinking Fund - \$169,857.50

Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

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

Pension Plan Agreement: As recommended by Mr. Collins and the Director of Operations, a motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Ms. Smith, that the Township enter into an agreement with Conrad Siegel Actuaries, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to perform an independent actuarial review of the two (2) Township pension plans, at a cost of \$3,000.00, and provide an independent review of the investments included in said pension plans, at a cost of \$6,000.00. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively with the exception of Mr. Vaughan, who abstained.

Facilities/Public Property:

PPL Right-of-Way Agreement – Municipal Campus: As recommended by the Director of Operations, a motion was made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Kreider, authorizing the appropriate officer to execute a PPL Right-of-Way

Agreement for the purpose of moving electrical facilities located on Township property, from overhead to underground, due to construction of the salt storage shed. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Gun Range Clean-up – Purchase Order #03752: A motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Ms. Smith, approving Purchase Order #03752, to SAF Engineering Associates, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, to clean and abate lead from the firing range in the basement of the Municipal Building, and other items included in the proposal, at a cost of \$9,900.00. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. Chief Ross commented that once the firing range is clear of lead, the Police Department will be changing to lead-free ammunition.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Engineering/Planning Department:

Reedy Estates Escrow Release #12: As recommended by Great Valley Consultants, a motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Collins, to approve Escrow Release #12 for Reedy Estates, in the amount of \$217,201.57, leaving a balance remaining of \$44,261.70. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively with the exception of Mr. Kreider, who abstained.

Jacob Hayward – Waiver of Subdivision: As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Ms. Smith, granting the applicant’s amended request to waive the subdivision process for property located along Reading Boulevard, with the condition that the applicant commits, in writing, the lots will be developed only for single-family detached dwellings, and will comprise no more than five (5) lots. Such development must comply with all applicable Township regulations including, but not limited to, zoning and stormwater management. Upon roll call, all Supervisors vote affirmatively.

Keith Stamm – Waiver of Subdivision: As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Mr. Dallas, granting the applicant’s request to waive the subdivision process for dividing property, located on Laird Street, into no more than two (2) residential lots. Such development must comply with all applicable Township regulations including, but not limited to, zoning and stormwater management. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Trisha Hoffman – Variance for Off-Street Parking Requirements: The applicant proposes to conduct a hair dresser/beauty salon home occupation on this property, located at 2129 Spring Street. Five (5) off-street parking spaces are required - 2 for the residence and 3 for the beauty salon. However, because the property contains a residence that occupies over 90 percent (90%) of the lot, there is no available area for off-street parking. The Planning Commission made no specific recommendation to the Zoning Hearing Board. A motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Kreider, that the Zoning Hearing Board hear arguments from all parties and render their decision. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Hofmann Tract Offices – Waiver of Sidewalk Installation: The plan for this proposed development includes an extension to Iroquois Avenue from Hillvale Avenue, to the Hofmann tract, to Dwight Street. The applicant has requested that the Township waive the requirement that sidewalk be constructed along both sides of this street, allowing it to be constructed only on the north side. No recommendation was received from the Planning Commission. Chairman Dallas emphasized the importance of sidewalks for pedestrians. A motion was made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Collins, denying the requested sidewalk waiver. Upon roll call, Mr. Dallas, Mr. Collins and Ms. Smith voted affirmatively. Mr. Vaughan and Mr. Kreider voted no. Motion passed 3-2, thereby requiring construction of sidewalk along both sides of the proposed extension of Iroquois Avenue.

Time Extensions:

Hofmann Tract Offices – As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Kreider, accepting the grant of a time extension to August 12, 2008. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively with the exception of Mr. Collins, who voted no.

Upper Hillside Properties – As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second

by Mr. Kreider, accepting the grant of a time extension to June 15, 2008. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

One Meridian Phase II – As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Kreider, accepting the grant of a time extension to August 12, 2008. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Wilson School District Operations Center – As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Collins, accepting the grant of a time extension to June 10, 2008. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Weis Markets – As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Ms. Smith, accepting the grant of a time extension to August 12, 2008. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively with the exception of Mr. Vaughan, who voted no.

Road Services Department/WWTP/Infrastructure Committee:

Raising of Manhole (Wyomissing Creek) – Purchase Order #57: As recommended by the Infrastructure Committee, a motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Collins, approving Purchase Order #57, to Schlouch, Inc., for raising a manhole along the Wyomissing Creek, three feet above grade, at a cost of \$3,340.03. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. The sewage flowing in this line flows to the City of Reading.

Raising of Manhole (Tulpehocken Creek) – Purchase Order #58: As recommended by the Infrastructure Committee, a motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Mr. Kreider, approving Purchase Order #58, to Schlouch, Inc., for raising a manhole along the Tulpehocken Creek, two feet above grade, at a cost of \$3,086.38. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. The sewage flowing in this line, also, flows to the City of Reading.

PPL Right-of-Way Agreement – Yerger Boulevard: A motion was made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Collins, authorizing the appropriate Township official to execute a Right-of-Way Agreement for PPL to replace one electric pole and extend guy wires on three poles along Yerger Boulevard (Township property). Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

0.8 MGD Plant Remediation and Upgrade – Revised Scope of Work: As recommended by the Infrastructure Committee, a motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Ms. Smith approving the revised scope of work for the aforementioned project, as proposed by Systems Design Engineering, Inc., at an additional cost of \$38,000.00. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. The changes in the scope of work were discussed with Township personnel. There are sufficient funds in the engineering budget to cover the additional cost.

Summer Part-Time Employment: As recommended by the Director of Public Works, a motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Collins to authorize the hiring of a returning summer part-time employee at the rate of 50 cents above the 2007 rate paid to this individual. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Police Department:

PERF Study Pledge: A motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Ms. Smith, approving a statement of support letter allowing the Township to participate in the County's Police Executive Research Forum, at no cost to the Township. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Mobile Radios - Purchase Order: A motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Vaughan, approving a purchase order for three (3) mobile radios, to Radio Maintenance, Inc., at a cost of \$10,624.59. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. (State Contract)

Weapons Storage System – Purchase Order: A motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Collins, approving a purchase order to Technical Solutions, for a universal weapons storage cabinet, at a cost of \$1,983.75. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Handicapped Parking Permit – 207 Woodside Avenue: A motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Collins, approving a permit for a handicapped parking space in front of 207 Woodside Avenue. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Township of Spring Volunteer Fire Department:

Purchase of Shed: A motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Ms. Smith, granting permission for the placement of a 12' x 20' shed in the parking lot of the Central Fire Station. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Monthly Activity Report: Fire Commissioner Schach distributed copies of the TSVFD Monthly Activity Report to the Supervisors.

SOLICITOR:

Traffic Impact Fee Ordinance #358: As explained by Solicitor Lillis, this Ordinance essentially replaces Ordinance #230. The three (3) required reports have been completed and approved by the Township. Development generated trips in the Transportation Improvements Area will be assessed a fee of \$783.00 per trip, which will remain in effect in the Transportation Improvements Area until the Traffic Impact Fee Committee is asked to reconvene by the Board of Supervisors. A motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Mr. Vaughan, adopting Ordinance #358. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. Mr. Dallas, as Chairman of the Traffic Impact Fee Committee, thanked the participants for their efforts in completing the various tasks involved.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business to report.

WORKSHOPS/TRAINING REQUESTS: A motion was made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Collins, approving the following workshop/training requests:

J. Moll – Green Roof Symposium, Berks County Agricultural Center, May 19, 2008

B. Ross – International Chiefs of Police Conference, San Diego, California, November 8-12, 2008.

Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Chairman Dallas reviewed correspondence included in the Supervisors' information packets.

There being no further business, Chairman Dallas adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheryl Kressler, Township Secretary