

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

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MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 8, 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, Solicitor; Leon Mazurie, Chief Ross, James Moll, John Groller, Tracy Daniels, Sheryl Kressler, Greg Ganikon, Richard Quinter, Brian Kobularcik and Michael Hartman.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR:

Richard Quinter, 2070 Garfield Avenue: Mr. Quinter read a prepared statement regarding the absence of black top on the 2000 block of Garfield Avenue. Photographs were submitted as evidence of the deterioration of the road surface. Chairman Dallas acknowledged the concern of Mr. Quinter, and the residents, and assured him that he would recommend to the Infrastructure Committee that they consider this block of Garfield Avenue for inclusion in the 2009 roadwork project. Chairman Dallas, also, offered to walk along the road with Mr. Quinter to observe its condition.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Kreider, approving the Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2008, as corrected. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

OPERATIONS:

Business Office:

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

General Fund - \$134,440.07
Refuse Tax Fund - \$44,565.02
Sewer District #2 - \$18,355.75
Sewer District #3 Fund - \$60,859.77
Fire Protection Fund - \$9,294.72
Capital Fund Account - \$267.95

Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Financial Reports: The Supervisors received copies of the current financial report for review.

Modify 2008 Budget: As a result of moving \$19,000,000.00 of anticipated long term borrowing for capital projects, a motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Kreider, accepting the recommended 2008 Budget modification, which reflects a reduction in revenues of approximately \$23,443,000.00 and expenditures of \$13,372,000.00. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. Chairman Dallas thanked Mr. Groller for his work on this matter.

Amend 2008 Fee Schedule: As recommended by the Township staff, a motion was made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Collins, accepting amendments to the 2008 Fee Schedule, as outlined. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Engineering/Planning Department:

Wagner Estate (Stonegate) Release of Maintenance Security: Maintenance Security was posted by Grande Construction when the streets were accepted for dedication by the Township in 2006. The 18 month maintenance period has expired. A motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Vaughan, to release the \$35,760.58 posted as maintenance security for public improvements within the Wagner Estate subdivision. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Reading Hospital – Tulpehocken Tract – Extension of Time: As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Mr. Kreider, approving an extension of time for the Reading Hospital preliminary land development plan through January 31, 2009. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Prospectus Group Home – Special Exception: The applicant has requested that the Zoning Hearing Board grant a special exception to permit a 6-resident group home at the property located immediately to the east of 1800 Reading Boulevard. The Planning Commission chose not to make a recommendation to the Zoning Hearing Board at this time. A motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Kreider, recommending that the Zoning Hearing Board insure the applicant complies with all requirements; and if the special exception is granted, that they require the applicant to proceed with the land development and subdivision process. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Covenant Orthodox Presbyterian Church – Special Exception and Variances: The applicant has requested that the Zoning Hearing Board grant a special exception to permit a place of worship on Lot 54 of the Reedy Estates development, located at the intersection of Yerger Boulevard and Brian Lane. As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Vaughan, recommending that the Zoning Hearing Board grant the special exception with conditions. Upon roll call, Supervisors Smith and Vaughan voted affirmatively, Supervisors Collins and Dallas voted no, and Supervisor Kreider abstained. The motion failed. Therefore, no recommendation was made to the Zoning Hearing Board.

The Planning Commission recommended that the following variance requests be denied by the Zoning Hearing Board:

Variance for Size of Sign - Section 603(B): A motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Dallas, recommending that the Zoning Hearing Board deny this variance. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively, with the exception of Mr. Kreider, who abstained.

Variance for Number of Parking Spaces - Section 701: A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Collins, recommending that the Zoning Hearing Board deny this variance. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively, with the exception of Mr. Kreider, who abstained.

Variance for Size of Parking Spaces - Section 703(B): A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Vaughan, recommending that the Zoning Hearing Board deny this variance. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively, with the exception of Mr. Kreider, who abstained.

Hofmann Tract Offices:

Iroquois Avenue Street Classification: The Infrastructure and Transportation Advisory Committees recommended that the proposed Iroquois Avenue extension be formally designated by the Township of Spring as a local street, in accordance with the variance granted by the Zoning Hearing Board. The Planning Commission, also, recommended the local street designation with the condition that there would be a 36-foot cartway. Supervisor Vaughan reminded the Board that the width of the entire length of the extension would not be 36 feet. Solicitor Lillis concurred, and the local street designation and width of the cartway will be noted on the plan.

Waiver of Clear Sight Triangle – Section 1004(M)(3)(c): As recommended by the Planning commission, a motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Kreider, granting a waiver of the requirement for a clear sight triangle, in compliance with the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, at the intersection of Iroquois Avenue and Dwight Street. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively with the exception of Mr. Collins, who voted no.

Mr. Ganikon and his wife are appealing the decision of the Zoning Hearing Board, with regard to the clear sight triangle.

Preliminary Land Development and Annexation Plans Approval: As recommended by the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Kreider, approving the Hofmann Tract Offices preliminary land development and annexation plans, with the condition that all outstanding issues in the review letter of August 21, 2008, be satisfactorily resolved, and that the local street designation be included, as well. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Police Department:

Officers Miller and McCreary – Classification Change: As recommended by Chief Ross, a motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Ms. Smith, approving a classification change for Officers Miller and McCreary to Patrol Persons 2nd Class, together with the appropriate salary per contract, effective September 17, 2008. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Township of Spring Volunteer Fire Department:

Replacement of IBM Server – Purchase Order #01726: A motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Collins, approving Purchase Order #01726 for an IBM Server (replacing the current TSVFD server) hardware, software and installation, to Omega Systems, in the amount of \$6,302.30. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. (CO-STARs Contract)

Code Red Information System: Mr. Mazurie informed the Board that the Code Red System is near completion. This is basically a reverse 911 system to alert the public of an emergency within the Emergency Management region. Additional information will be available on the Township website, in the Communicator and on the websites of participating municipalities.

SOLICITOR:

Graffiti Ordinance #360: A motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Ms. Smith, to adopt Graffiti Ordinance #360, declaring graffiti as a nuisance, and establishing fines, costs and penalties for violations of the Ordinance. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. This Ordinance includes a clause which allows for clean up and participation in the County Anti-Graffiti Program in lieu of certain fines and penalties.

Recyclables Burning Ordinance #361: An amendment to the Township Fire Prevention and Protection Code, Ordinance #361 prohibits the burning of designated recyclables and yard waste, as required by DEP to facilitate

applications from the Township for 902 and 904 grants. A motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Ms. Smith, adopting the Recyclables Burning Ordinance #361. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Traffic Ordinance Amendment: A motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Kreider, authorizing the Solicitor to amend the Traffic Ordinance, in accordance with recommendations from the Chief of Police, particularly the addition of numerous handicapped parking spaces to the Ordinance. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Job Description: A motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Collins, approving the job description, as presented, for the position of Geography Information and Mapping Administrator. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Conditional Offer of Employment: Having completed her internship with the Township, and as recommended by the Director of Operations and Director of Public Works, a motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Ms. Smith, to make a conditional offer of employment to Laura Mursch, of Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania, for the position of Geography Information and Mapping Administrator. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. Ms. Mursch will be required to successfully complete a physical, substance abuse test and a background check.

Personnel Recommendation: As recommended by the Director of Operations and Director of Public Works, a motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Mr. Kreider, to extend the employment of Kiki Chatzidimitriou through the Christmas holidays, at her current salary of \$9.00/hr., and at a maximum of 32 hours per week. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. Ms. Chatzidimitriou has completed her internship with the Township.

WORKSHOPS/TRAINING REQUESTS:

A motion was made by Mr. Kreider, second by Mr. Vaughan, to approve the following workshop/training requests:

Officers Lake and Keiser, EVOC training, October 27-29, 2008, no cost

Officers Goss and Brock, Advanced Interview and Interrogation, November 4-6, 2008, no cost

Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Chairman Dallas announced that an Executive Session was held at 6:15 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel issues. Action was taken, as noted, during the regular public meeting.

There being no further business, Chairman Dallas adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheryl Kressler, Township Secretary