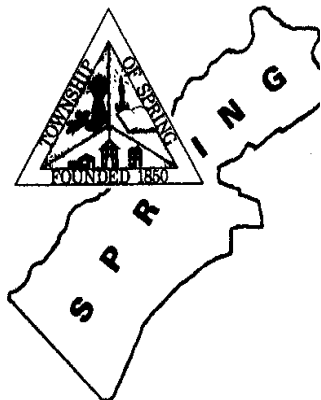


BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
DRAFT



TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

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MEETING MINUTES

September 14, 2009

OPENING OF MEETING: The regularly scheduled bi-monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Kreider, 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, Sheryl Rowan, H. David Miller, Anne Deiterich and Erin Negley of the Reading Eagle.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR: No questions or comments were heard from the floor.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Collins, accepting the Minutes of August 24, 2009. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR:

Penn Avenue Corridor – DCED Grant: Chairman Kreider announced that the Township is the recipient of a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to study and prepare a revitalization plan for the Penn Avenue Corridor located within the Township. As part of the planning process, the Board of Supervisors will seek shareholders, i.e. residents and business property owners/operators located along the Avenue, who are interested in participating in this study in the near future.

Reading Hospital and Medical Center – Withdrawal of Conditional Use Application: The following statement was read by Chairman Kreider, with regard to property located at Broadcasting and Paper Mill Roads:

The Township has received correspondence from Attorney John Roland, representing the Reading Hospital, dated September 8, 2009, withdrawing the Conditional Use Application of the Reading Hospital and Medical Center.

A copy of the letter from Attorney Roland has been incorporated into these Minutes and made a part hereof.

WESTERN BERKS AMBULANCE:

David Miller, Chairman of the WBAA Board of Directors, and Anne Dieterich, Executive Director, attended the meeting to answer specific questions with regard to a proposed plan whereby municipalities pay membership fees for their residents, at the rate of \$30.00 per household. Currently members pay \$65.00 per household and \$50.00 for senior citizens. Response to membership drives has declined to approximately 27 percent.

According to Mr. Miller, if the proposed membership strategy is not adopted, WBAA may have to scale back services. In the event that WBAA was forced to curtail services, Mr. Collins suggested that the burden would be on the Township to establish an ambulance service. A change in House Bill 1131 clearly specifies that Townships will be responsible for insuring fire and emergency medical services are provided by the means and to the extent determined by the Township, including the appropriate financial and administrative assistance for the services.

Subsequent to comments, concerns and inquiries from each Supervisor, a motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Ms. Smith, to support the household membership program, as proposed to the Township, in lieu of the Township providing this service.

Question on the motion: Supervisor Vaughan asked whether this would be supported by a tax increase or, as the Township staff proceeds with the budget process, will they be looking at other areas from which to cut funds? Mr. Collins responded that the best approach to take would be to find funding in the budget.

Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER:

Business Office:

Bills for Approval: A motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Mr. Vaughan, approving payment of bills, with the exception of #71493, as listed by the Township Treasurer, from the following accounts:

General Fund - \$313,535.37
Fire Hydrant Tax Fund - \$6,532.20
Refuse Tax Fund - \$56,872.58
Sewer District #2 Fund - \$6,010.89
Sewer District #3 Fund - \$56,739.31
Fire Protection Fund - \$20,868.56
Capital Fund Account - \$258,898.09

Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Financial Reports: The Supervisors received copies of the current financial report for review. There were no questions.

Parks and Recreation Department:

Volunteer Dinner: Supervisor Collins acknowledged the recent Parks and Recreation Volunteer Recognition Dinner, which was well attended and greatly appreciated by all volunteers.

Colony Park Pavilion Project:

Purchase Order: As recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board, a motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Ms. Smith, approving Purchase Order PR2009-40, to Bitting Recreation, Inc., in the amount of \$58,750.00, for a new pavilion at Colony Park. (Budgeted Item)

Comment on the motion: Supervisor Dallas thought they should consider whether the pavilion is a necessary expense in 2010, even though it is a budgeted item.

Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively with the exception of Mr. Dallas, who voted no.

Authorization to Bid Installation of the Colony Park Pavilion: A motion was made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Collins, authorizing the Director to bid the installation of the Colony Park Pavilion. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively with the exception of Mr. Dallas, who voted no.

Kerry Irwin Playground:

CDBG - Amendment #1 Agreement: As recommended by the Director of Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities, a motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Ms. Smith, authorizing the appropriate Township official to execute a Community Development Block Grant Amendment #1 Agreement, for the Kerry Irwin Playground Project, extending the term of the contract to December 31, 2009 and increasing the amount of the grant by \$70,000.00 (total grant \$170,000.00). Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Bid Authorization: A motion was made by Mr. Vaughan, second by Mr. Collins, authorizing the Director of Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities to advertise for bids and to open the same for the Kerry Irwin Playground Project. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

D. Daniels – Resignation: A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Collins, to regretfully accept the resignation of David Daniels from the Parks and Recreation Board, effective January 1, 2010. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Engineering/Planning Department:

Fiber Optic Cable Bid Award: As recommended by the Director of Engineering and Planning, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Collins, awarding the contract for installation of fiber optic cable, between the current municipal building and the former credit union building, to Cable Services Co., Inc., Williamsport, Pennsylvania, for a lump sum amount of \$18,135.00. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Area B, Phase I, Drainage Improvements – Authorization to Advertise: A motion was made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Vaughan, authorizing the Director of Engineering and Planning, to advertise for bids for proposed drainage improvements along Telford Avenue. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. The proposed project will be funded by a grant, which has been approved by the Berks County Community Development Office.

Road Services Department/WWTP/Infrastructure Committee:

CDBG Amendment #1 Agreement: As recommended by the Roadmaster/Director of Public Works, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Collins, authorizing the appropriate Township official to execute a Community Development Block Grant Amendment #1 Agreement for storm sewer improvements and extends the current agreement from December 31, 2009 until June 30, 2010. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. These storm water improvements will eliminate flooding during heavy rains that currently enter the sanitary sewer system.

Establish Sanitary Sewer Districts: Gannett Fleming, together with the Solicitor, has been authorized by the Board to review and recommend revisions to the current Township sewer ordinance. As part of this process, the Infrastructure Committee recommended that the Board of Supervisors authorize Gannett Fleming to work with Township staff in identifying and establishing sanitary sewer billing districts for future use. A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Ms. Smith, to table action on this recommendation until Gannett Fleming's cost for the

forementioned work has been determined. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Police Department:

Progressive K-9 Contract: A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Collins, to execute a \$10,000.00 contract with Progressive K-9 for purchase of a K-9, including handler's school. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. This purchase was funded 100 percent through drug forfeiture monies and donations.

SOLICITOR:

Standard/The Principal – Lawsuit: A motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Ms. Smith, authorizing the Solicitor, Chairman and other appropriate Township officials to take steps necessary to file and prosecute a civil action against Standard Insurance Company, and its agents, to recover all damages arising from failure of Standard to execute instructions for the sale of assets held on account of the Township's Police and Non-Uniformed Personnel Pension Plans. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

OLD BUSINESS:

Request to Display Certificate of IAFF Affiliation: Fire Commissioner Schach expressed concern regarding placement of the IAFF Certificate of Affiliation in the Central Fire Station, due to the relationship of the volunteers and career personnel. If approved by the Supervisors, however, the Communications Room would be the most acceptable location, as requested by Fire Fighter Riegel. A motion was made by Mr. Collins, second by Mr. Dallas, to not post the certificate at this time. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

NEW BUSINESS:

Street Light Discussion: In anticipation of the deregulation of PPL electric, effective January 1, 2010, the Township is in the process of joining with other municipalities to purchase wholesale electric through the Berks County Cooperative Purchasing Council. The Township Manager explained that this does not include non-metered electric, which would affect street lights within the Township. Non-metered electric is expected to increase 125 percent. For budgetary purposes, Mr. Mazurie asked the Board if they would proceed with assessing property owners by the front foot, increasing the cost from \$.75/front foot to \$1.555/front foot for developed properties; \$.375/front foot to \$.78/front foot for undeveloped properties, levy a general real estate tax (.52 mills) for street lights, or levy a dedicated real estate tax on properties within 250 feet of a street light. Additional information was requested by the Supervisors.

Library Board Member Resignation: A motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Collins, accepting with regret the resignation of Bruce Silfies from the Spring Township Library Association Board of Directors, effective immediately. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

Library Board Member – Appointment Recommendation: As recommended by the Spring Township Library Association Board of Directors, a motion was made by Mr. Dallas, second by Mr. Collins, appointing Lori AbouOmar to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Silfies, effective September 14, 2009 through the Board of Supervisors Reorganization Meeting on January 3, 2011. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Chairman Kreider announced that an Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss matters of personnel.

There being no further business, Chairman Kreider adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheryl Rowan, Township Secretary