



TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

BERKS COUNTY, PA

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES May 24th, 2021

OPENING OF MEETING: A regular business meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairperson Stuck at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 24th, 2021 in the Public Meeting Room of the Township of Spring Administration Building, located at 2850 Windmill Road, Spring Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

ROLL CALL: Upon roll call, Supervisors Stuck, Smith, Ulrich and Kocher were present. Supervisor Myer attended via teleconference. Also present were: John Groller, Judy Houck, Jen Bensinger and Daniel Becker, Esquire. The following individuals attended via teleconference: Chief Ross, Deputy Chief Powell, Aaron Wozniak, Paul Darrah, Chief Hackman, Stephanie Karli, Steve Heebner, Anthony Tucci, Nick Johnson of Great Valley Consultants, Mary Ann Reardon, Michael Wertz, Gia Raffaelli, Jesse Royer and Noreen Robinson.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR: Stephanie Karli and Steve Heebner of 110 St. Gina Court, Sinking Spring, owners of Cloud Nine Café. They are requesting an extension on their temporary outdoor dining permit due to the loss of income they experienced during the last. Mr. Wozniak provided some background information on this matter and explained that all restaurant outdoor seating permits in the Township will expire at the end of June.

Motion to extend all temporary outdoor seating permits until Labor Day (September 6th, 2021) was made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Ulrich. Upon roll call all Supervisors voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED.

MaryAnn Reardon of 17 Wyomissing Hills Boulevard, is questioning the rumors she has heard about a Kentucky Fried Chicken being built at the former site of Schoellkopf's Service Center. Ms. Reardon stated that she and a lot of other residents are concerned about the current traffic issues and how a fast food restaurant would negatively affect this situation. Ms. Reardon was informed that at this time, no plans have been submitted.

Noreen Robinson, 19 Upland Road, has the same concerns as Ms. Reardon.

Mr. Becker re-iterated that no plans have been submitted yet. When plans are submitted they will go through the Township's standard plan approval process and may or may not be subject to zoning regulations. He also confirmed that Ms. Reardon and Ms. Robinson are residents of Wyomissing Hills, not Spring Township.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL: All items requiring action by the Board are listed below. Comments and discussion points are listed under the corresponding item.

1. Meeting Minutes – Regular Business Meeting – May 10th, 2021
2. List of Bills for Approval –
 1. **General Fund - \$263,785.39**
 2. **Street Lighting Tax Fund - \$25,046.93**
 3. **Fire Hydrant Tax Fund - \$1,675.52**
 4. **Refuse Tax Fund - \$53,789.86**
 5. **Sewer District #3 Fund - \$75,520.56**
 6. **Fire Protection Fund - \$43,377.87**
 7. **Capital Fund - \$-0-**
3. Resolution 2021-13 – Solicitor Becker explained that intermunicipal agreements no longer have to be adopted by an ordinance- a resolution is sufficient. This resolution permits the Township to participate in the Berks County Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals. Mr. Ulrich questioned whether or not the Township would have representation on the Board of Appeals. Mr. Becker explained the requirements an individual must have to serve on this Board, the large number of municipalities that participate in this agreement and the efficiencies that the Township experiences by participating in this program.
4. Conditional Offer of Employment – Township Secretary – Mr. Groller is seeking permission to extend a conditional offer of employment to an individual for the position of Township Secretary.
5. Conditional Offers of Employment – Police Officer Candidates – Deputy Chief Powell is seeking permission to extend a conditional offer of employment to a prospective police officer candidate. This potential hire would fill one current vacancy.
6. Purchase Order – Public Works Vehicle – Mr. Groller reviewed the request to purchase a 2020 F-350 4x4 SD Regular Cab Pick-Up Truck from Koch 33 Ford in the amount of \$41,284.00 through the Co-Stars Program.
7. 2079 Tulpehocken Road – Easement Agreement – Mr. Becker reviewed the stormwater issue at 2079 Tulpehocken Road. Storm water from the Penn State Campus flows across Tulpehocken Road, across this property to the Tulpehocken Creek. During storms in 2020, damage occurred to the pipes and swale. In order for the Township to make the necessary repairs to this stormwater system, an easement is required. Mr. Becker’s office prepared the easement agreement, Township staff have reviewed it and the property owner has signed it. The agreement is ready for approval and execution by the Supervisors.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL (Continued)

8. Harvard Boulevard Reconstruction Alternatives – Mr. Johnson reviewed the history of this project and the various alternatives that have been discussed in the past. Mr. Stuck questioned if any of this work had been done as part of the road study. Mr. Darrah has to look into that. Mr. Johnson indicated that the road study provides general information about the condition of the road and the general location of utilities. It does not provide actual topographic information or the exact line and grade from the utility companies. The study also does not provide the existing depth of the utility lines which may cause conflicts with the storm sewer system layout or the installation of new curbs should the Township decide to narrow the street. Current construction estimates do not include the storm water system costs – that estimate would be developed as part of Phase II. Discussion was held regarding the stormwater issues in this neighborhood and the cost of updating/expanding the system.

The Board discussed tabling the issue, adding the development of the storm sewer estimate to Phase I and at what point the residents should be included in the discussion. Possible grants and funding sources for the storm water portion of this project were also discussed.

The Infrastructure Committee recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve the two-phase proposal to assess the feasibility of the various options to complete the necessary curb repairs along Harvard Boulevard to Great Valley Consultants in the amount of \$12,750.00 for Phase I and \$9,000.00 for Phase II.

The Board would like to add the evaluation of the stormwater system to Phase I. Phase II will be tabled for now. Mr. Myer is concerned about Great Valley Consultants doing this project. He would like to find a better engineering firm to handle this project due to its complexity.

9. 2022 Road Work Plan – Mr. Groller explained that the Infrastructure Committee would like to switch Harvard Boulevard from 2022 to 2023. Mr. Myer questioned if these estimates included the construction and maintenance contracts. He also questioned the sending of the street lists to the utility companies. Mr. Johnson is prepared to send the list of streets as soon as they are approved. Mr. Myer also questioned the status of the 2021 maintenance contract. Mr. Johnson stated that the bid will be advertised tomorrow and that bid opening is scheduled for June 7th. Work will begin in mid-July – this allows the base repair that is part of Contract 1 to be completed prior to the surfacing treatment that is part of Contract 2. Mr. Myer questioned why the maintenance contract was not completed sooner. Mr. Darrah indicated that they needed to wait for numbers from H&K for part of the construction work. Mr. Darrah also stated that he spoke with AMS and they are very pleased that the work will be done during the heat of the summer in July and August.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL (Continued)

10. Creation of New Bank Account – PLGIT – American Rescue Plan Act Funding - Mr. Groller is requesting permission to open a separate interest - bearing account through PLGIT (Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust) in accordance with the regulations for the American Rescue Plan Act Funding.
11. In-Person Public Meeting Attendance/Administrative Building Access – Mr. Groller presented his recommendations regarding the opening of the Administration Building to the public. Effective June 1st, the public will be permitted into the lobby and the Parks and Recreation Department. Effective June 7th, the public will be permitted to attend the Supervisors’ meeting in person. Current occupancy regulations will be followed and the general public and staff will be required to continue to wear masks.

Motion to approve Action Items # 1 through #11, with the amendment to Item # 8 as discussed was made by Mr. Ulrich seconded by Mr. Kocher. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively except Mr. Myer who voted No to payment number 103798 for Great Valley Consultants in the amount of \$4,425.40 and No to item #8. MOTION CARRIED.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS

- A. Zoning/Building Codes Department – Mr. Wozniak – No Report
- B. Parks and Recreation Department – Ms. Houck- Written monthly report was submitted. Pavilion reservations and program registrations are being received. In the last 27 days, 79 pavilion permits have been processed.
- C. Engineering/Planning Department – Mr. Moll – No Report
- D. Finance Department –
 - 1) Mr. Groller provided a Prior Year Comparative Income Statement for April 2021 vs. April 2020. Revenues have increased by \$725,290.00 and expenses have increased by \$645,755.00.
 - 2) American Rescue Plan Act – Funding Update Slides from PSATS Meeting – Mr. Groller provided a verbal update on this matter.
- E. Human Resources – Ms. Reardon – No Report
- F. Public Works – Mr. Darrah – No Report

PUBLIC SAFETY

- A. Police Department – Chief Ross/Deputy Chief Powell – A written report was submitted. Mr. Kocher questioned the citizen concerns about youth on streets in the Snyder Road/Wellington Boulevard area. Deputy Chief Powell reported that traffic checks have been conducted in the area, Officers have spoken with several juveniles and their parents and positive changes have occurred.
- B. Township of Spring Fire Rescue Services – Chief Hackman – No Report
- C. West Side Regional EMA – Mr. Bausher – No Report.

SOLICITOR – Mr. Becker – No Report.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1. An Executive Session was held prior to this meeting to discuss matters of personnel.
- 2. Next meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 14th, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chairperson Stuck adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Houck, Director of Parks and Recreation/
Township Secretary