



TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

BERKS COUNTY, PA

2850 WINDMILL ROAD
SINKING SPRING, PA 19608
Tel. (610) 678-5393
Fax. (610) 678-4571
www.springtwpberks.org

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES June 14th, 2021

OPENING OF MEETING: A regular business meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairperson Stuck at 7:05 p.m. on Monday, June 14th, 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, Kocher, Myer and Ulrich were present. Supervisor Smith attended via teleconference. Also present were: John Groller, Jim Moll, Judy Houck, Jen Bensinger, Aaron Wozniak, Chief Ross, Deputy Chief Powell, Zach Focht, Fred Hatt, Jeff Garner, Jay Worrall and Daniel Becker, Esquire. The following individuals attended the meeting via teleconference: Jennifer Grimes, Mike Wertz, Nick Johnson, Marty Stallone, Gia Raffaelli, Julie VanLear, Matt's iPhone and Sherri Sponagle.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR: None

WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS ORDINANCE HEARING – Scheduled for 7:15 p.m. – deferred until 7:40 p.m. due to loss of Internet access.

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 24th, 2021
2. List of Bills for Approval –
 1. **General Fund - \$328,865.45**
 2. **Street Lighting Tax Fund - \$-0-**
 3. **Fire Hydrant Tax Fund - \$6,844.97**
 4. **Refuse Tax Fund - \$123,788.47**
 5. **Escrow Fund - \$33.04**
 6. **Sewer District #3 Fund - \$105,123.01**
 7. **Fire Protection Fund - \$49,924.76**
 8. **Capital Fund - \$41,284.00**
3. **BCCPC Road Salt Contract 2021-2022** – Ms. Houck reported that sixty (60) municipalities were participating in the contract this year. Ms. Houck recommends awarding this contract to Eastern Salt Company, Inc. at a per ton price of \$67.63. The estimated tonnage required is 24,465 tons at a cost of \$1,654,567.95. All participating municipalities have voted in favor of awarding the contract to Eastern Salt Company, Inc.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL (Continued)

4. Property and Liability Insurance Renewal – Mr. Groller introduced Zach Focht from EHD who gave a brief overview of the status of the insurance industry. Estimated renewal of the Township’s Property and Liability Insurance on July 1st is \$176,782.00. This is an increase of approximately 8.9% higher than 2020. This is not just a rate increase. It includes exposure increases as well.
5. Helping Harvest – Waiver of Land Development - Mr. Moll reviewed the request to install a 3,000 sq. ft. building addition for cold storage facilities at the Helping Harvest Food Bank. The Planning Commission unanimously recommended that the Board of Supervisors grant the requested Waiver of the Land Development process if the applicant 1) ensures that sufficient accessible parking spaces will remain in compliance with the ADA requirements for the site and 2) indicates if the proposed project would result in an increase in water usage or sewage generation on the site.
6. Alcon Land Development Plans – Extension of Time – Mr. Moll reported that the Planning Commission unanimously recommended that the Board of Supervisors accept the applicant’s request for an extension of time until December 31st, 2021.
7. Traffic Ordinance Update - Authorization – Mr. Moll presented the Police Department’s and the Transportation Advisory Committee’s (TAC) requests to create a 4-Way Stop at Dwight Street and Grandview Boulevard and to re-align the travel lanes and parking restrictions at Snyder/Woodside and Grandview. The Board of Supervisors are also asked to authorize the Township Solicitor to work with the Director of Engineering in making the appropriate revisions to the Traffic Ordinance and to authorize the advertisement and adoption of the ordinance in August 2021. Discussion was held regarding the Dwight Street and Grandview Boulevard intersection and the Snyder/Woodside and Grandview intersection.
8. Approval of 2021 Road Maintenance Contract – Mr. Johnson reported that one bid was received from Asphalt Maintenance Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$417,119.40. Mr. Darrah is recommending that this contract be awarded.

Motion to approve Action Items # 1 through # 8, was made by Mr. Myer seconded by Mr. Kocher. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively. Ms. Smith was absent during the roll call. MOTION CARRIED.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS

- A. Zoning/Building Codes Department – Mr. Wozniak –
 - 1) Monthly Report – Mr. Wozniak presented his monthly report.
 - 2) Civil Complaint Filing – 2824 Hillvale Avenue – Mr. Wozniak reported that the applicant has not submitted a drainage plan to date and the Judge had set mid-June as the deadline. Mr. Wozniak received an email at 6:00 pm this evening indicated that a consultant has completed the plan but Mr. Wozniak would still like to have authorization to file the civil complaint in the event progress does not continue on this project. He will work the Mr. Becker and the resident to develop a reasonable time line.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS (Continued)

- A. Zoning/Building Codes Department – Mr. Wozniak –
- 3) Civil Complaint Filing – 2043 Old Lancaster Pike – Mr. Wozniak is withdrawing this item because an application to the Zoning Hearing Board was received Friday afternoon. This matter involves the construction of a structure without a permit and needs to be processed through the Zoning Hearing Board.

Motion to file a Civil Complaint against the resident at 2824 Hillvale Avenue was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Myer. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively except Ms. Smith who abstained because she was unable to hear Mr. Wozniak's report. MOTION CARRIED.

- B. Parks and Recreation Department – Ms. Houck- No Report

The Public Meeting was recessed at 7:40 p.m. so that the Public Hearing could be held.

WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS ORDINANCE HEARING – Began at 7:40 p.m.

Mr. Moll reviewed a general description of the ordinance and the summary of changes. The Township is proposing to adopt amendments to the Zoning provisions for Wireless Communications Antennas and Towers. This is prompted by the changes in the Federal and State regulations that govern Small Communications Facilities.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 7:50 pm. and the Public Meeting resumed.

Motion approve Ordinance #448, Resolution # 2021-14 and Resolution # 20212-15 was made by Mr. Myer and seconded by Mr. Kocher. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS (Continued)

- C. Engineering/Planning Department – Mr. Moll
- 1) 601 Fritztown Road – Variance Request – The property owner at 601 Fritztown Road has applied to the Zoning Hearing Board for a variance from the provisions of Section 401 of the Zoning Ordinance which prohibits more than one principal use on a property. The Planning Commission considered this matter and chose to make no recommendation to the Zoning Hearing Board. Representatives from the applicant spoke briefly about the project. The Board had several questions about the windows, parking and roof lines.

Motion to recommend to the Zoning Hearing Board that the Variance Request be granted was made by Mr. Myer, seconded by Ms. Smith. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED

- 2) Wilson School District – Electronic Sign Special Exception – The Wilson School District is seeking a special exception approval for an electronic sign at the intersection of Dwight Street and Van Reed Road. The Planning Commission considered this matter and recommended that the Zoning Hearing Board grant the requested Special Exception with the condition that the applicant respond to all of Mr.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS (Continued)

Wilson School District – Electronic Sign Special Exception – (Continued)

Moll’s concerns as outlined in his memo to the satisfaction of the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Kocher feels that this sign will be disruptive in the school zone and does not feel it is appropriate to use Township taxpayer dollars for an electronic sign. Ms. Smith questioned the brightness of the sign and its affects on the neighboring houses.

Motion to recommend to the Zoning Hearing Board that the Special Exception be approved was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Myer. Upon roll call, Supervisors Ulrich, Myer and Smith voted affirmatively. Supervisors Kocher and Stuck voted negatively. MOTION CARRIED (VOTE 3 – 2)

- 3) 2818 Belmont Avenue – Appeal of Notice of Violation – The owner of 2818 Belmont Avenue has applied to the Zoning Hearing Board for an Appeal from a Decision by the Zoning Officer regarding an un-permitted stockade type fence in the front yard. The Planning Commission considered this matter and chose to make no recommendation to the Zoning Hearing Board. The resident, Ms. Grimes indicated that in 2014 she had a property transfer inspection done which reports that the fence is compliant.

Motion to recommend that the Zoning Hearing Board grant the requested relief with the following conditions: 1) when the fence needs to be replaced it will be brought into current compliance and 2) when the property transfers the fence will be brought into current compliance was made by Mr. Stuck and seconded by Mr. Ulrich. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED.

- 4) Hofmann Tract – Soil Stockpile Waiver – The applicant for this proposed 180-unit garden apartment complex has requested permission to begin stockpiling soil on the property in preparation for the construction activities that will take place once the Land Development Plans are approved. An aerial photo was provided that identifies where the soil should be stockpiled. Township Staff recommends that the trucks hauling the soil access the site from Iroquois Avenue and the applicant should post sufficient funds to ensure repairs for any damage that would occur on the Township road. Ms. Raffaelli, representing the client, spoke briefly about the request and addressed the concerns expressed by the Board. She reported that the Berks County Conservation District is aware of the project.

Motion to waive the weight limits on Iroquois Avenue between Shillington Road and Hillvale Avenue for the delivery of stockpile material; to limit the delivery times to between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm; that appropriate funds be posted for any damage that might occur and that approval from the Berks County Conservation District be obtained was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Ms. Smith. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively except Mr. Myer. MOTION CARRIED (VOTE 4 -1).

- C. Finance Department – Mr. Groller – No Report
- D. Human Resources – Ms. Reardon – No Report
- E. Public Works – Mr. Darrah – Reported that the storm water project on Tulpehocken Road is near completion and the resident is very pleased with the project. The new pick-up truck is due for delivery this week.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- A. Police Department – Deputy Chief Powell requested permission to make a formal offer of employment to one candidate and a conditional offer of employment to another candidate.

Motion to make a formal offer of full-time employment to one Police Department candidate upon completion of the physical examination and a conditional offer of employment to another Police Department candidate was made by Mr. Ulrich and seconded by Mr. Myer. Upon roll call, all Supervisors voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED.

- B. Township of Spring Fire Rescue Services – Chief Hackman reported that during the month of May the Department had 244 responses; 90 were medical/motor vehicle accidents and 154 were fire related calls. The Department provided aid 60 times and received aid 45 times.
- 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 and real estate.
2. Next meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 28th, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chairperson Stuck adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Houck, Director of Parks and Recreation/
Township Secretary