



# TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

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

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**

**OPENING OF MEETING:** A regular business meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Ulrich at 7:03 p.m. on Monday, September 13, 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 Kocher, Myer, and Ulrich were present. Supervisors Smith and Stuck attended via teleconference. Also present were: John Groller, Judy Houck, Mary Burkholder, Aaron Wozniak, Paul Darrah, Jen Bensinger, Deputy Chief Powell, Dan Becker - Esquire, Jack McCartney, Mason Smith, Duane Daniels, Chris Hannum-Entech Engineering, Charles Good, Linda Good, Michael Woods and Madison Lolacl. The following individuals attended the meeting via teleconference: Fire Chief Hackman, Larry Schneck, Ryan Wyandt and Jim Moll.

### **OPEN TO THE FLOOR**

Duane Daniels- 3305 Reedy Road

Mr. Daniels requested the Township consider digging out the swale on Reedy Road. Mr. Daniels stated he has lived at his current residence for twenty-four (24) years and has noticed over the years the swale is not as deep. Water is overflowing from the swale and has been half way up his yard and surrounding homes have had water in their basements. Mr. Daniel complimented the recent paving work done on Reedy Road. Mr. Daniels reported speeding issues on Reedy Road and requested the Spring Township Police prioritize speed enforcement on Reedy Road before there is a terrible accident.

Mason Smith-2810 Hiester Boulevard

Mr. Smith reported atrocious conditions on Hiester Boulevard affecting at least thirty (30) homes. Mr. Smith reported he and his neighbors are afraid for their safety and their property. Mr. Smith recently observed traffic for one (1) hour and counted thirty-eight (38) vehicles speeding in excess of forty (40) mph, fourteen (14) vehicles that failed to stop including two (2) police officers and three (3) buses. The road is a one-way street and Mr. Smith stated he constantly sees people driving in the wrong direction. After 2:00 a.m. Mr. Smith stated he has observed erratic drivers on the Boulevard. Mr. Smith reported in the year that he has lived on Hiester Boulevard he has had four (4) vehicles totaled from parking on the street. Two (2) of the incidents were hit-and runs and are currently under investigation. Mr. Smith requested the Township consider installing a speed bump or an electronic sign to curb speeding before a child is struck.

Chief Powell stated the police department will go out tomorrow morning to review and determine a location to install an electronic sign.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR (Continued)

Madison Lolael 2810-Hiester Boulevard

Ms. Lolael stated her vehicle was the first one struck by a hit and run driver. Ms. Lolael expressed frustration with the ongoing issue of speeding and careless driving on Hiester Boulevard.

Jack McCartney-3109 Belmont Avenue

Mr. McCartney expressed his frustration in finding someone at the Township to speak with him regarding repairs on the blacktop in front of his residence beginning in the fall of 2020. He stated when the road was surfaced on Belmont Avenue it was surfaced over a concrete curb that was not sealed. Over the years the water has seeped into the curbs on Belmont Avenue causing erosion and the blacktop to crack. Mr. McCartney questioned if anyone inspects the road after various contractors and utility companies tear up the road for a project. He reported one (1) spot looks like a sink hole, one (1) area was dug up and it is not level with the road and one (1) spot is a massive crack. Mr. McCartney reported after stopping by the Township, two (2) patches were done in front of his house and one in front of his neighbor's house. Mr. McCartney stated he would like to know when the road will be repaired.

Mr. Darrah reported he spoke to Mr. McCartney in the past. Mr. Darrah explained to Mr. McCartney crack sealing is not done in the summer and was not done in the spring due to a COVID 19 outbreak among staff. Cold patch was done for now. This area on Belmont Avenue is on the schedule to be repaired in the fall.

Charles Good- 3321 Reedy Road

Mr. Good stated he has lived at his residence on 3321 Reedy Road since 1986. Mr. Good stated he attended a Township Meeting three (3) or four (4) years ago with his neighbor Ron Procopio to report flooding issues with the swale. Mr. Good stated when the swale was installed, the top of the excavator was level with the banks, filled with large stone ballasts and was approximately five (5) ft deep. Currently the swale is covered with overflow silt and the overflow of water appears to be twenty (20) ft across. Mr. Good stated he is waiting on the Township for a resolution on this issue.

Ryan Wyandt-502 Harvard Boulevard

Mr. Wyandt asked what the status is with the flooding issues on Harvard Boulevard which has flooded three (3) times in the past three (3) years. Mr. Wyandt has been in contact with several of his neighbors reporting at least seven (7) homes experiencing over a foot and a half of sewage water in their basement. Mr. Wyandt reported this a problem that has occurred in 2018 and 2019. Mr. Wyandt stated the last update he had received was that the Engineers were doing surveys and plans were possibly being drawn up in 2019. Mr. Wyandt stated this time he has lost thousands of dollars in property and questioned what the Township is going to do to fix the problem.

Mr. Becker stated there is a lot of work that has been done but, unfortunately, we cannot stop the rain. Since this was first brought to the Township's attention, the Public Works Department has gone out and done a significant amount of work in cleaning out storm sewer drains to ensure that the stormwater does not create problems on Harvard Boulevard. There has been less of an issue on Harvard Boulevard since the work has been completed according to other residents who have communicated with the Public Works Department. Mr. Becker stated homes with floor drains will flood as the drains allow the stormwater a place to come in. Floor drains are not permitted by code and residents are strongly advised to seal the drains. Mr. Becker reported the Township is committed to resolving this problem long term. The second phase addressing the issue is the \$4,000,000.00 design upgrade to the sewer system Entech Engineering is designing.

**OPEN TO THE FLOOR (Continued)**

Larry Schneck-2826 Hillvale Ave

Mr. Schneck stated he spoke to Mr. Wozniak regarding a hearing that was scheduled on the Wagner property concerning the ongoing dilemma that has been going on for years in the civil courts system. Mr. Schneck reported Mr. Wagner and the District Justice Judge did not show up for the last scheduled hearing. Mr. Becker reported the Judge telephoned him and apologized for not attending the hearing. Mr. Wozniak will be issuing additional citations.

Mr. Schneck informed the Board of Supervisors about a deteriorating section of road on Clark Avenue at the peak of the hill. Mr. Schneck stated the holes are approximately 6-inches wide.

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

1. Meeting Minutes – Regular Business Meeting – August 23, 2021
2. Bills for Approval –
  1. **General Fund - \$390,211.13**
  2. **Street Lighting Tax Fund - \$15,000.61**
  3. **Fire Hydrant Tax Fund - \$6,844.97**
  4. **Refuse Tax Fund - \$106,467.31**
  5. **Escrow Fund - \$0**
  6. **Sewer District #3 Fund - \$118,715.23**
  7. **Fire Protection Fund – \$8,938.51**
  8. **Capital Fund - \$300,498.40**
3. Resolution 2021-17 Appointment of Township Secretary

Mr. Groller recommends the Board of Supervisors approve Resolution 2021-17 appointing Mary Burkholder as Township Secretary.
4. Permit Fee Refund -943 Fritztown Road

Mr. Wozniak stated the Township received a permit refund request from Stumps Deck and Porches at 943 Fritztown Road. The homeowner cancelled the project after the permit was issued. The Contractor paid the permit fee totaling \$407.50 and is requesting a refund from the Township. Mr. Wozniak recommends the Board of Supervisors grant the refund as per the Township's normal policy to refund the money less any external review fees.
5. Outdoor Seating-Time Extension

In May of 2021 the Board of Supervisors extended the outdoor temporary seating guidelines until Labor Day of 2021. Mr. Wozniak reported Cloud Nine has requested an extension until the end of October. Cloud Nine is the only restaurant that has requested the extension. Restrictions imposed by the State ended in June and most restaurants are operating without restrictions. Mr. Wozniak reviewed the request with Fire Marshal Troy Hatt. Mr. Wozniak recommends the Board of Supervisors grant Cloud Nine their request to temporarily extend outdoor seating guidelines until the end of October. No other extensions will be considered by the Board of Supervisors after October unless the State issues new dining restrictions.

***ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL (Continued)***

6. Authorization to Obtain Professional Services for Police Building Renovations/ Drainage Issues

Chief Powell stated the Police Department looked into having seventeen (17) windows replaced. The estimate came in at an excess of \$30,000.00. Other building renovations are necessary such as column repairs and addressing drainage issues. Chief Powell stated the Police Department would like to hire an engineering firm to develop the scope of work and assist with bid specifications.

7. Authorization to Sell Used Marked Police Vehicles and Other Township Assets

Chief Powell stated the Township has fourteen (14) used vehicles to put up for sale. Mr. Becker noted when the vehicles are put out to bid the Township should follow legal advertising requirements.

8. Wyomissing Interceptor Upgrade

Mr. Moll presented the area for the upgrade where the interceptor flows through Wyomissing into the City of Reading's Sewage Treatment Plant. The upgrade will increase the existing 18" sanitary sewer line to a 30" sanitary sewer line. An additional part of the project includes a section at the end of Harvard Boulevard. The existing sewer lines at this location on Harvard Boulevard make 90-degree bends which the Township believes is affecting the hydraulic capacity of the line. Mr. Moll stated the Infrastructure Committee recommends the Board of Supervisors authorize Entech Engineering to proceed with the design of the enlargement of the Wyomissing Interceptor Project.

9. Payment Application No. 5- WWTP Clarifier #3 Project

Entech Engineering has reviewed PSI Solution's Application for Payment No. 5 for the WWTP Clarifier #3 Project and recommends payment of \$121, 617.51 for a portion of demolition, excavation, piping, electrical and relocation of transformer.

10. FEMA Grant Purchase

Chief Hackman requested approval for Purchase Order FR-2021-0055 for Fire Rescue to purchase two (2) Hydraulic Rescue Tools in accordance with NFPA 1936. The total cost is \$23,800.00 and is through CoStars Contract 012-009. Federal Assistance to Firefighters AFG Grant Program will fund the entire purchase.

*Motion was made by Mr. Myer, seconded by Mr. Kocher to approve action items 1-10.*

*Mr. Myer voted no to approve the payments to Great Valley Consultants for the following: 2021 Streets Project-\$10,129.94 and 2022 Streets Project-\$1,925.10.*

*Mr. Ulrich abstained from action item #1.*

*Upon roll call vote, action items 1-10 were approved. MOTION CARRIED.*

**TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS**

A. Zoning/Building Codes Department

Mr. Wozniak presented his monthly report for August 2021. 107 permits were issued, 55 permits for pre-settlement inspections were completed and 2 enforcement notices were sent out. 16 complaints were received this month. 67 complaints are receiving enforcement activity by the third- party code service. The Zoning Hearing Board rendered 2 decisions in August and heard 1 case. Shocktoberfest at Willow Glen Park has been delayed one week

## **TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS** *(Continued)*

- A. Zoning/Building Codes Department *(Continued)*  
due to flooding issues. Inspection for the event is scheduled for tomorrow.

Mr. Kocher questioned if something could be done to remove the numerous “We Buy Houses” signs on utility poles at intersections in the Township. Mr. Wozniak stated the Township has a high reach tool that may be utilized to remove these types of signs.

- B. Parks and Recreation Department-No Report
- C. Engineering/Planning Department-Mr. Moll submitted a monthly report for August.
- D. Finance Department-No Report
- E. Human Resources –No Report
- F. Public Works

Mr. Darrah reported in the last two (2) weeks there has been a tremendous amount of storm damage in the Township. The Board of Supervisors thanked Mr. Darrah and his crew for the great job they did cleaning up after the flooding and storms.

Mr. Kocher asked what the procedure is in the Township regarding trash and recycling pick up scheduled on the same day residents receive Asphalt Maintenance Solution's notices regarding roadwork. Mr. Darrah reported the trash and recycling trucks have been able to get through with Tracy Daniel's assistance. Mr. Darrah reported all road surfacing work with the exception of Iroquois Avenue will be completed by tomorrow afternoon.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- A. Police Department  
Deputy Chief Powell thanked Mr. Darrah and the Public Works Department for their prompt assistance with the flooding and storm incidents in the last couple weeks.
- B. Township of Spring Fire Rescue Service-Monthly report was submitted by Chief Hackman. Chief Hackman reported call volume has increased. During the month of August there were 293 responses. In the height of the first storm the Fire Department received fifty (50) calls in an approximate twelve (12) hour period. During the wind storm, the Department received approximately twelve (12) calls in a shorter time span.
- C. West Side EMA-No Report

## **SOLICITOR** –

- A. West Lawn Interceptor- Mr. Becker reported the Borough of Wyomissing is inquiring about the possibility of connecting additional residences to a line that runs from Wyomissing down to the Joint Municipal Authority.
- B. Hoffman Road Use Agreement- Mr. Becker reported the final portion of the agreement is near completion and should be executed tomorrow. Trucks will be bringing in clean fill to

***SOLICITOR (Continued)***

**B. Hoffman Road Use Agreement (Continued)**

complete the project and road stabilization will begin on Iroquois Avenue.

Mr. Myer questioned if it would be legally permitted for the Board of Supervisors to take a straw vote to see how the Board feels about an issue since it is not permitted to vote on items that are not on the agenda.

Mr. Becker stated a straw vote would not be permitted under Act. 65.

**OLD BUSINESS:** No Report

**NEW BUSINESS:** No Report

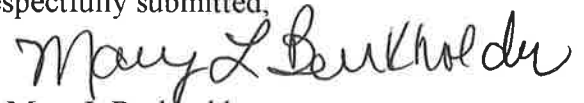
**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, Supervisor Ulrich adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary L Burkholder

Township of Spring Secretary