



TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

OPENING OF MEETING: A regular business meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairperson Stuck by at 7:05 p.m. on Monday, September 27, 2021 in the Public Meeting Room of the Township of Spring Administration Building, located at 2850 Windmill Road, Spring Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

Upon roll call, Supervisors Stuck, Kocher, Myer, Smith and Ulrich were present. Also present were: John Groller, Judy Houck, Mary Burkholder, Aaron Wozniak, Jen Bensinger, Jim Moll, Deputy Chief Powell, Dan Becker -Esquire, Tony Tucci-Western Berks Ambulance Association, Fire Chief Hackman, Tom Pych, John Graham, Jay Guistwite, Nathan White and Kamoen White. The following individuals attended the meeting via teleconference: Denise Myer, Greg-WFMZ, G7thinQ, Ipad, Jesse Royer, Joe Har, Paul Darrah, Pych, Terry Naugle- Great Valley Consultants, Michael Wertz, Merion Drive, and Jody Graham.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR

Nathan White- 3016 Grandview Boulevard

Mr. White stated he and his family have lived in the Township for seven (7) years. Mr. White expressed his dissatisfaction with the youth football program leadership. Mr. White explained as a result of his dissatisfaction and no one listening to his ideas, he and his family are moving out of the Township and he will be resigning from the Zoning Hearing Board.

Mr. White alleged that no one listens to him and that he has great ideas how to solve issues in the Township, including stormwater runoff issues and he provided a copy of a plan that he designed to solve the issues, commenting that the plan will work if anyone at the Township is smart enough to figure out his design.

Mr. Stuck thanked Mr. White for his service on the Zoning Hearing Board.

Mr. White commented that no one cares and he and his son left the meeting.

Tom Pych- 420 Merion Drive

Mr. Pych stated he has lived in the Township approximately twenty-two (22) years. Mr. Pych distributed pictures taken two (2) weeks ago of Merion Drive that was recently oiled and chipped to show current road conditions. Mr. Pych stated if you walk on the street you bring debris in your house and your garage from the road surface. Mr. Pych stated he does not want the road in front of his home to look like it does currently.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR(Continued)

John Graham- 423 Merion Drive

Mr. Graham stated he has lived in the Township ten (10) years. Mr. Graham stated that Merion Drive was patched and there is still a lot of debris on the road. There are issues at the corner of Merion Drive and Augusta Drive where the road was ground down for about two (2) months. Mr. Graham stated he has tire marks in his driveway apron due to traffic being permitted to drive on the road literally hours after the work was done. Mr. Graham stated Wyoming Drive and Merion Drive have had sink holes and pot holes that have been repaired at least four (4) times. Mr. Graham stated there is a bump and a divot at the corner of Wyoming Drive and Merion Drive that he believes is from water leaking in from the road from improper paving. Mr. Graham expressed that he does not want the road in front of his home looking as it does currently.

Mr. Darrah reported the Township began using the Herbert, Rowland, & Grubic Program as a method of road repair in 2019. The roads in question are still curing and take thirty (30) to forty (40) days to process. Mr. Darrah stated the base was substandard on Augusta Drive resulting in the need to mill the road out and re-pave because the bottom part of the road was in terrible shape. Mr. Darrah reported he was out on the Township roads and was pleased with the results. The Board of Supervisors requested Mr. Darrah go out and inspect the road on Merion Drive and Augusta Drive tomorrow morning. Mr. Naugle of Great Valley Consultants stated he was not aware of any issues with the road surface and will take a look at the roads tomorrow to see if anything appears to be out of the norm with the process.

Jay Guistwite-2516 Reading Boulevard

Mr. Guistwite stated he has lived in the Township sixty (60) years. Mr. Guistwite asked the Board of Supervisors if something could be done to have all the junk removed on the property located at 2524 Reading Boulevard. He stated he had filed two (2) complaints in 2019 and 2020, and reported that Kraft Codes has previously been out to the property as well as the Police Department. Mr. Guistwite reported currently there is a refrigerator, water heater, carpeting, wood, metal, electronics, two (2) pick up trucks filled with junk, a door laying on the sidewalk and a dump truck in the rear of the property. Mr. Guistwite expressed concern that in the event he would like to sell his parents' house he believes the value of the home would significantly decrease due to the conditions of his neighbor's property.

Mr. Wozniak will speak to Deputy Chief Powell and formulate a plan to address the issues.

Anthony Tucci- Western Berks Ambulance Association

Mr. Tucci reported the Department is the 2nd department in Berks County to become Autism Certified. Mr. Tucci reported one-hundred twenty-two (122) patients in the Township of Spring have kept \$121,000.00 of check money owed to Western Berks Ambulance Association. Last year they received \$400.00 of trip returns from the insurance company, this year they are averaging \$350.00 resulting in \$600,000.00 in lost revenue. Mr. Tucci stated non-payment for ambulance services is considered theft of services under the PA Crimes Code. The Association has been working with District Attorney Adams who has been an advocate for the Western Berks Ambulance Association. Mr. Tucci reported patients around the County are not being billed that owe \$6,000.00-\$7,000.00 resulting in a \$56,000.00 deficit. Mr. Tucci stated Western Berks Ambulance Association is requesting an increase for the first time from the Township of an additional \$5.00 per household. The total cost per household will be \$35.00 per year.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR(Continued)

Jess Royer-963 Fritztown Road

Mr. Royer stated as a fellow Zoning Hearing Board Member he would like to thank Mr. White for his service on the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Royer reported on Friday late afternoon his wife's vehicle was struck by a vehicle as she was exiting their driveway. He was very thankful his wife and children were not injured and thanked the responding Police Officer. Mr. Royer asked the Board of Supervisors what the process would entail to request the installation of a slow or hidden driveway sign on a state road. Mr. Royer stated his driveway is located at the crest of Fritztown Road where Bran Road comes down on the left side of the road. Mr. Moll will contact PennDOT to inquire about the possibility of a road study in that location.

Mr. Ulrich stated he was sorry that Nathan White was upset. Mr. Ulrich stated he did not understand what Mr. White was asking the Board of Supervisors.

Ms. Smith stated she believes Mr. White was reporting about how the youth football is run, which the Township is not associated with.

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 – September 13, 2021
2. Bills for Approval –
 1. **General Fund - \$356,573.49**
 2. **Street Lighting Tax Fund - \$10,033.59**
 3. **Fire Hydrant Tax Fund - \$0**
 4. **Refuse Tax Fund - \$70,684.98**
 5. **Escrow Fund - \$0**
 6. **Sewer District #3 Fund - \$477,685.97**
 7. **Fire Protection Fund – \$54,680.00**
 8. **Capital Fund - \$16,800.00**
3. Current COVID Regulations Update Ms. Houck reported at the September 16, 2021 Parks and Recreation Board meeting the Board reviewed and discussed the Township's current recreation program and park facility COVID regulations, current CDC and PA Department of Health recommendations and Berks County statistics. The Parks & Recreation Board recommends the Board of Supervisors maintain the current guidelines in place until the end of the year, unless there is a drastic change in recommendations from the CDC and PA Department of Health.
4. Payment Application #1-Spring Ridge Pump Station Project
Mr. Groller reported Entech Engineering recommends payment to PSI Solutions Application for Payment Application #1 for the Spring Ridge Pump Station Project for site observations in the amount of \$53, 428.17.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL(Continued)

5. ARM Group LLC Proposal P21010747-Goose Lane Yard Waste Drop-Off Site

Mr. Groller recommends approval of construction plans and survey submitted by the ARM Group LLC in the amount of \$25,850.00. Mr. Groller reported late in 2020 the Township hired a consultant by Substantial Resources Inc. to assist with the design and permitting process for the yard waste site located on Goose Lane. The Township has submitted a permit to the DEP that includes a design of Best Management Practices that will be acceptable to continue to operate at the Goose Lane location. In addition to the permit application, a grant application was submitted by the Township to the DEP to cover the cost of the project. A portion of the grant proposal was submission from the ARM Group LLC for fill placement, construction of asphalt paving ingress/egress, a concrete pad for the residential drop area, and installation of site security.

Work will be done internally by the Public Works Department including development, sloping and grading.

6. Zoning Hearing Board Vacancies

Mr. Groller reported Nathan White informed the Township he would be resigning from the Zoning Hearing Board. Stephen Skrocki, the Zoning Hearing Board's Alternate has agreed to fill Nathan's remaining term. The Township will be required to appoint an alternate to replace Mr. Skrocki. At the end of 2021 the Township will need to fill additional openings on the Zoning Hearing Board to fill expired terms.

7. 2022 Pension MMO

Mr. Groller provided the Board of Supervisors with a summary comparison of the 2022 Minimum Municipal Obligation required to be filed by the Township before the end of September 2021. The MMO for 2022 have increased by 3.5% or \$68,000.00 for a total of \$1,978,837.00. Mr. Groller reported the increase is due to the Township's covered payroll which has increased by 11%. The additional payroll is due to additional employees in the Non-Uniform Plan and the Police Department Plan. Mr. Groller explained the Drop Program and reported fluctuation is based upon percent increases and active participation levels.

8. Payment Application #6 -WWTP Clarifier #3 Project

Mr. Groller reported Entech Engineering recommends approval of PSI Solution's Application for Payment No. 6 for the WWTP Clarifier #3 Project in the amount of \$244,81.52 for a portion of demolition, excavation and preparation for the pre-cast clarifier.

Motion made by Mr. Myer, Seconded by Mr. Kocher to approve action items 1-8. Upon roll call vote all Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

Motion Carried.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS

A. Zoning/Building Codes Department -No Report

B. Parks and Recreation Department- Ms. Houck submitted a monthly report for September.

C. Engineering/Planning Department-No Report

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS (Continued)

- D. Finance Department-Mr. Groller submitted the General Fund Comparative Income Statement for August. Mr. Groller reported a couple of significant one-time items/cash-based finding items for this year. The annual revenue as of August 2021 is \$13,501,842.00. Included in the revenue YTD is one half of the American Rescue Act money and Interfund Transfers that were done in December 2020. The annual revenue less these two (2) items is \$11,169,319.00 compared to \$10,329,826.00 last year for an increase in revenue of \$839,443.00. Mr. Groller reported August 2021 YTD expenses totaled \$11,170,762.00. Interfund transfers totaled \$1,545,500.00 and the Pension MMO transfer was \$1,587,965.00. Both the Interfund and the Pension MMO transfers were done in December 2020 previously. The YTD expense total less these two (2) transfers is \$7,448,136.00 for an increase in expenses for 2021 of \$589,161,000.
- E. Human Resources –No Report
- F. Public Works-Mr. Darrah reported all in-house paving and restoration of Township roads, was completed last week. Line painting is scheduled for tomorrow or Wednesday to paint all the roads that were done in-house. The remaining road work to be completed is grading on some of the country roads in the Township.

Mr. Myer questioned when UGI will start the roadwork patching they are required to do according to their agreement with the Township.

Mr. Darrah reported he spoke to UGI and PA American Water Company and both companies are scheduled to make repairs in the next two (2) weeks. Mr. Myer asked if UGI will honor the new agreement and patch on Woodside Avenue and Snyder Road. Mr. Darrah stated Woodside Avenue will be completed as it was not done to code originally, he will ask about Snyder Road.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- A. Police Department- Monthly report was submitted by Deputy Chief Powell. Deputy Chief Powell reported the police department followed up on residents' complaints brought up at the September 13, 2021 Board of Supervisor's Meeting about speeding on Hiester Boulevard and Reedy Road. Sixteen (16) traffic checks were done, a speed sign was installed on Reedy Road, and several citations were issued.
- Deputy Chief Powell announced on October 5th and 6th the Police Department will be participating in "Coffee with a Cop". On October 5th the event will be held at Wawa on Penn Avenue, October 6th at Wawa on Broadcasting. The event runs from 8:00-10:00 a.m.
- B. Township of Spring Fire Rescue Service-No Report
- C. West Side EMA-No Report

SOLICITOR – No Report

OLD BUSINESS: No Report

NEW BUSINESS: No Report

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. An Executive Session was held prior to this meeting to discuss matters of personnel, real estate, and collective bargaining.
2. Next meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 12th.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chairperson Stuck adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary L Burkholder
Township of Spring Secretary