



TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

BERKS COUNTY, PA

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 25th, 2023

OPENING OF MEETING: Chairperson Stuck called a regular business meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order at 7:14 p.m. on Monday, September 25th, 2023, 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, Smith, Wertz, and Royer were present. Also present were John Groller, Paul Darrah, Jen Bensinger, Jeremy Baez-Reyes, Chief Hackman, Judy Houck, Aaron Wozniak, Chief Powell, Jason Reichert, and Dan Becker, Esquire. Also in attendance within the audience were Michael C. Smith, Peter Edelman, Esquire from Stevens & Lee, Jamie Schlesinger, and Pat Doherty of PFM Financial Advisors LLC. Attending via ZOOM was Anthony Tucci, Western Berks Ambulance Association.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

Motion to amend the agenda to add a discussion regarding the opening of Iroquois Avenue under the Engineering/Planning Department was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Mr. Wertz. Upon roll call, All Supervisors present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED

OPEN TO THE FLOOR:

Michael C. Smith, 2422 Cleveland Avenue, addressed the Board with his concerns about a black SUV parking daily between 8:00-8:15 a.m. where the curb is painted yellow at the corner of Cleveland Avenue and Harrison Avenue. Mr. Smith said that speeding is an issue in this area, particularly one vehicle, noting that there are a lot of children in that area and that he and Mrs. Smith don't want anyone to get hurt. Chief Powell said the Traffic Unit will monitor the location.

Anthony Tucci, Western Berks Ambulance Association, reminded the Board that Wednesday, September 27th, 2023, is the meeting with several municipalities at the Spring Township Fire Department at 7:00 p.m.

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. Minutes from September 11th, 2023 Meeting
2. Minute Corrections-August 14th & 28th
Minor changes need to be made; corrections are noted on copies provided.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL: *(Continued)*

3. List of Bills for Approval
 1. **General Fund - \$ 2,109,746.37**
 2. **Fire Hydrant Tax Fund - \$ 7,917.00**
 3. **Refuse Tax Fund- \$ 17,352.83**
 4. **Sewer District #3 Fund - \$ 211, 382.11**
 5. **Fire Protection-\$179,140.41**
 6. **Capital Fund- \$162, 267.93**
4. Resolution 2023-15 County LSA Grant

Mr. Groller explained the application for the County LSA Grant requires approval of the resolution. The grant is for costs for Police Department building repairs and safety equipment.
5. 2024 MMO's

Mr. Groller reported that the Finance Department has calculated the required Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for 2024, which will be included in the 2024 Budget. Mr. Groller reviewed highlights from the comparison summary, noting that the MMO increased approximately 1.64%, or \$34,000.00, as compared to 2023.
6. Goose Lane Yard Waste Site Ordinance

Mr. Groller stated that Kozloff Stoudt prepared the ordinance required for the Goose Lane Yard Waste Site. Mr. Groller noted the delay with utilities at the site, which has delayed the reopening. The proposed ordinance lists the costs for access cards, renewal fees, and replacement cards. Mr. Groller confirmed for Mr. Stuck that details are being worked out for the issue and renewal process.
7. Resolution 2023-16

Mr. Groller stated the approval of the resolution is to authorize the Township to participate in the County Program to allow credit card payments for real estate taxes. The Township will not bear fees associated with residents paying taxes with a credit card.
8. Parameters Ordinance-G.O. Bonds Series of 2023

Jamie Schlesinger, PFM Financial Advisors LLC (PFM), addressed the Board, stating with the Board's authorization that PFM has started preparing to go to the market for a municipal bond issue. Mr. Schlesinger said that Mr. Groller and the staff at PFM went through the credit rating process, noting that the Township's rating is outstanding, with an AA Credit rating. Mr. Schlesinger stated that PFM has worked with the legal team, Dan Becker of Kozloff Stoudt, and Peter Edelman of Stevens & Lee to prepare the necessary documentation and proper advertisements associated with asking the Board to consider approval of a Parameters Ordinance, which essentially allows the Township and PFM to work together to sell bonds without any additional authorization required by the Board of Supervisors.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL: (Continued)

8. Parameters Ordinance-G.O. Bonds Series of 2023 (Continued)

Mr. Schlesinger reviewed the maximum parameters and explained that the ordinance specifies the amount is for \$7,000,000.00 and assumes a maximum interest rate of 6% provided for the transaction's maturity, which is twenty years. The expected annual debt service payments, principle, and interest for the next twenty years associated with this will be approximately \$400,000.00 annually.

Mr. Schlesinger explained the process of the upcoming competitive internet sale on October 5th, 2023. The Board's approval of the ordinance will give the authorization to complete the process. The bonds will be priced next week, and Mr. Edelman will file with DCED (Which approves the transaction under state guidelines). There is a waiting period, and the expected settlement will occur in mid-November 2023. The ordinance language allows the use of the funds for other projects besides sewer projects if necessary.

Mr. Schlesinger requested a roll call vote for approval of the ordinance.

A motion to authorize Ordinance 2023-456 as presented for G.O. Bonds Series of 2023 was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Mr. Wertz. Upon roll call vote, the following votes were recorded: Ms. Smith-(Yes), Mr. Wertz-(Yes), Mr. Royer-(Yes), Mr. Kocher-(Yes), and Mr. Stuck-(Yes). MOTION CARRIED 5-0

9. Infrastructure Committee Appointment

Mr. Groller requested approval to appoint Alan Kreider to fill the vacant IC Committee seat. Mr. Groller confirmed for Mr. Stuck that Mr. Kreider will attend the IC Meetings on his time.

Motion to approve Action Items #1-7 & #9 was made by Mr. Kocher and seconded by Mr. Royer. Upon roll call, All Supervisors present voted affirmatively. Ms. Smith abstained from voting on Action Item #1, and Mr. Wertz abstained from the minute corrections from the August 28th meeting and Fire Fund #14 payment. MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Groller introduced Jeremy Reyes, the Township's new IT Manager, in attendance this evening. The Board welcomed Mr. Reyes.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS

A. Zoning/Building Codes Department: No Report

B. Parks and Recreation Department- Ms. Houck submitted a monthly report. Mr. Stuck questioned if the Board would have the Comprehensive Study for Friday's Vision Meeting. Ms. Houck reported it had been delayed and received a message stating that she should expect it mid-week.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS (Continued)

C. Engineering/Planning Department:

Iroquois Avenue Opening-Mr. Stuck stated that last week, Mr. Wozniak was doing inspections by the Hofmann property. D & B Construction offered to open up Iroquois Avenue because of where they are currently working. Mr. Darrah stated the Township received a PA One call about intersection reconstruction work in that area. Mr. Becker noted the Land Development Process and recommended that the Board follow the process.

D. Finance Department - No Report

E. Human Resources - No Report

F. Public Works -Mr. Darrah reported that the Wyomissing Interceptor Project is going out to bid. Bid openings will be held on November 7th, 2023.

PUBLIC SAFETY

A. Police Department – Chief Powell provided a monthly report and reviewed numbers and incidents in the Township. Discussion points included legalities with some of the issues in one area of the Township.

B. Township of Spring Fire Rescue Service – No Report

C. West Side Regional EMA – No Report

SOLICITOR: –

1) Codification Review

Mr. Becker said that General Code is working on the codification process. He said they do a good job, and many municipalities use their services, noting it will be an ongoing process.

2) Property Tax Rebate-Mr. Becker said the information is still under review.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Noise Ordinance

The Board agreed that they would like further analysis involving different zoning areas and what the ordinance would look like. Mr. Becker confirmed that he would look into it.

2) Harvard Boulevard Project

Staff is waiting for cost estimates.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The Vision Meeting will be held this Friday, September 29th, at 8:00 a.m.
2. Resignation Letter from Zoning Hearing Board Member Adam Barney
3. Prior to this meeting, an Executive Session was held to discuss matters of personnel and real estate.
4. The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, October 10th at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary L. Rossi". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mary L. Rossi
Township Secretary