



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 AUGUST 26TH, 2024

OPENING OF MEETING: Chairperson Smith called a regular business meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 26th, 2024, 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 Smith, Stuck, Kocher, and Royer were present. Mr. Wertz was absent. Also present were John Groller, Dean Murray, Mary Rossi, Jen Bensinger, Jeremy Baez-Reyes, Chief Hackman, Paul Darrah, Aaron Wozniak, Judy Houck, Chief Powell, Jason Reichert, Firefighter Ian Mallery & family, many Fire Dept Personnel, Dan Becker, Esquire, Chazz Alden from Representative Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz's office, John Rathfon & Chris Stumpo of Metropolitan Companies, and Chuck Frantz of C2C Design Group. Brett E Walker, Debbie, Ashley Jensen attended via ZOOM. Anthony Tucci joined via ZOOM at 7:18 p.m.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS: None

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL:

To accommodate all those in attendance for Action Item # 7-Fire Rescue Technician Promotion, Ms. Smith turned the meeting over to Chief Hackman. Chief Hackman stated that the recent internal promotions in the Department left a vacancy for the Technician Position. Chief Hackman recommended that Firefighter Ian Mallery be promoted to Technician at a salary of \$73,469 per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 29th, 2024. Chief Hackman stated that Mr. Mallery is the Department's newest employee and he is doing an excellent job.

Motion to promote Firefighter Ian Mallery to the position of Technician was made by Mr. Royer and seconded by Mr. Kocher. Upon roll call, All Supervisors present voted affirmatively.

MOTION CARRIED

OPEN TO THE FLOOR:

Chazz Alden of Representative Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz's office stated they are doing a shred event with Senator Schwank's office at Wilson Southern at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 14th, 2024.

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 August 12th, 2024 Regular Business Meeting

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL (Continued)

2. List of Bills for Approval
 1. **General Fund - \$85,158.38**
 2. **Refuse Tax Fund- \$23,461.93**
 3. **Sewer District #3 Fund - \$94,358.14**
 4. **Fire Protection- \$6,784.44**
 5. **Capital Fund -\$29,497.38**

3. Wexcon Payment Application #4-Wyomissing Interceptor Project
Mr. Darrah stated that Entech Engineering recommends approval of payment request #4 to Wexcon in the amount of \$213,502.09.

4. Low-Pressure Sewer Specifications
The IC Committee and Entech Engineering recommend approval of the updated specifications as submitted.

5. Wexcon Change Order Request #3- Wyomissing Interceptor Project
Due to the low vertical clearance between the 30” Wyomissing Interceptor and 18” Cumru Interceptor at three different locations, 3 sections of the Cumru Interceptor were replaced with ductile iron pipe. The total cost of the change order is \$43,974.29.

6. Code Enforcement Officer
Mr. Groller stated that HR and Mr. Murray are requesting authorization to extend a conditional offer of employment to a candidate for the full-time Code Enforcement Officer position at a starting salary of \$60,000.00. The conditional offer is contingent upon the candidate completing the required background checks.

7. (Moved to the beginning of the meeting)

8. Firefighter/EMT- Conditional Offer of Employment
Chief Hackman respectfully requested that the Board of Supervisors approve a conditional offer of employment for the full-time Firefighter/EMT position. Chief Hackman stated that Department underwent a rigorous selection process and identified the top candidate. The offer is contingent upon the successful completion of all phases of required background checks. The starting salary is \$27.70 per hour, and the benefits offered will be in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

9. DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund-Resolution 2024-20A Amendment
Mr. Murray stated that an amendment is needed for the approved resolution for the DCED Multimodal Transportation Grant Fund. The amended version must include the cost that we are applying for.

10. Red Caboose Park- Light Replacement Project Contract Award
Ms. Houck stated that Great Valley Consultants (GVC) submitted the bid tabulation sheet and memo recommending that the contract be awarded to H.B. Frazer Company of Sinking Spring, PA, for \$38,400.00. Ms. Houck confirmed that Notices to Bidders were sent directly to seven (7) contractors in the Reading and Lancaster areas, and the bid was advertised as legally required. Two (2) bidders picked up documents, but only one (1) bid was received, noting GVC contacted the company that did not submit, and they said they were unable to get their bid bond together.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL (Continued)

11. Yerger Blvd Yard Waste Site- Fencing Quotes

Mr. Groller stated that the staff was waiting for a second quote for the fence/gate arm system as part of Phase 1. Mr. Groller stated that he is seeking approval for the Board to award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder, Security Fence Company of Red Lion, PA. in the amount of \$57,450.00.

12. Approval to Start Bidding Process- Penn Avenue Green Light Go Project

Motion to approve Action Items 1-6 & 8-12 was made by Mr. Stuck and seconded by Mr. Kocher. Upon roll call, All Supervisors present voted affirmatively, with Mr. Stuck abstaining from voting on payment of checks # 112136, 112156, and 11212, and Ms. Smith abstained from voting on payment of check # 112136. MOTION CARRIED

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS:

A. Zoning/Building Codes Department -No Report

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

C. Engineering/Planning Department

1) Reserve at Iroquois Hofmann LLC Request for Zoning District Change from POB to Urban.

Mr. Reichert reviewed the initial request discussed at a previous public meeting (July 22nd) when staff introduced the request from the Metropolitan Group for a zoning map change for a portion of the parcel they developed that was originally left as POB to put a commercial structure at the location. The Metropolitan Group's request is to change it to match the Urban District that the rest of the parcel is in order to consider installing a garden apartment building at the location. Mr. Reichert stated at this time, staff is looking for approval from the Board to begin working on this project. Based on questions that the Board had previously, the Metropolitan Group requested to be able to come in and speak to the Board.

John Rathfon of Metropolitan Companies addressed the Board, stating that they are looking to have a review and a meeting with staff. Mr. Rathfon reviewed the timeline of the recent project, which consisted of nine (9) apartment buildings (180 units), a clubhouse, and a maintenance building. The 9th building was just completed and was occupied on August 1st. Mr. Rathfon stated from the time they turned over the first building to the last building was fourteen months and that it was the fastest community they ever built and leased of the twenty-four (24) communities that they have across the state. Mr. Rathfon noted that the one-acre office pad has been on the market for over 2 ½ years; there is no serious interest in that. Mr. Rathfan said that they have a sixteen (16) unit product, the same look as other buildings, slightly smaller, garden style- 3 story apartments.

Ms. Smith stated that the elevation of this building seems to be higher than the previously built apartment buildings. Mr. Frantz stated that they are all the same height. Mr. Rathfon confirmed for Mr. Stuck that the Metropolitan Company does not have a two (2) story product. After discussion, it was decided that Mr. Rathfon would bring in a 3d model of the building and bring it back to the Board so they could look more closely at the elevation, etc.

D. Finance Department- No Report

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS: (Continued)

E. Human Resources - No Report

F. Public Works- Mr. Darrah gave an update on the roadwork. Mr. Darrah said that the contractor asked for approval to do the work on Dwight Street on Friday, August 30th, and if it rains on Friday, they will work on Saturday, August 31st. The Board stated they had no issue with the request. Mr. Stuck asked if there was any word about when UGI would fix Highland Street. Mr. Kocher questioned when Snyder Street would be repaired, Mr. Darrah stated he just got word that it should be done mid-month.

PUBLIC SAFETY

A. Police Department-

1) Chief Powell submitted a monthly report

2) Accessible Parking Space- Chief Powell stated the application is located in the 2200 block of Highland Street. The individual does meet the criteria and does not have off-street parking, and the Traffic Division recommends approval.

Motion to approve the accessible parking space as requested in the 2200 block of Highland Street was made by Mr. Stuck and seconded by Mr. Royer. Upon roll call, All Supervisors present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED.

3) Spring Township Night Out (In place of the canceled, due to inclement weather, National Night Out.) Chief stated that different times were advertised for the event, and that they are going to go with the 4:00 p.m. to the 8:00 p.m. time slot. The event will be held on the front lawn of the Police Department, noting that they do have a number of people attending.

4) Thank You- Chief Powell stated that he wanted to thank Mr. Darrah and his staff for the nice job that they did up at the high school. They moved handicapped spots back from the crosswalk, redid all the yellow curbing and street lines so people can't park right up next to the crosswalk. Chief Powell thanked Brad and staff for taking care of that.

B. Township of Spring Fire Rescue Services -No Report

C. West Side Regional EMA-No Report

D. Western Berks Ambulance Association-No Report

Mr. Tucci stated he submitted a monthly report and noted that they still have staffing issues.

SOLICITOR-No Report

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Infrastructure Committee Resignation

Mr. Kocher submitted his resignation to the IC Committee. Mr. Kocher stated it was a good 4 ½ years but, that his current schedule makes it difficult to make the regularly scheduled meetings. After discussion, it was decided that Ms. Smith will take his place and serve on the IC Committee as the Board Representative.


ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

1. An Executive Session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel issues.
2. The next regular BOS Meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 9th.
The Meeting will be a combined Budget Meeting and Regular Board Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chairperson Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary L. Rossi, Township Secretary