



TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

Board of Supervisors

BERKS COUNTY, PA
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 9TH, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: The Regular Meeting of the Township of Spring Board of Supervisors was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Stuck on Monday, December 9th, 2024, at 7:27 p.m. 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, Royer, and Wertz were present. Ms. Smith attended via teleconference, and Mr. Kocher was absent. John Groller, Dean Murray, Mary Rossi, Jen Bensinger, Jeremy Baez-Reyes, Judy Houck, Paul Darrach, Chief Hackman, Chief Powell, Jason Reichert, Dan Becker; Solicitor, Melissa Reichert & family, Emily Etchberger, and Karen Cook, Solicitor, also attended. Aaron Wozniak, Ashley Jensen, Brian Smith, William Koch Jr., and Frank D. attended via ZOOM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: An Executive Session was held before the meeting to discuss personnel matters.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS: None

EMPLOYEE PROMOTION:

Mr. Groller announced Mr. Jason Reichert's promotion to the Township's Engineering Director position, who will be taking over for Mr. Moll, who recently retired. Mr. Reichert has worked for the Township for almost two years, and the Township wishes him the best in his new position.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR: None

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 the November 25th Regular Meeting
2. List of Bills for Approval
 1. General Fund - \$203,042.66
 2. Street Lighting Tax Fund - \$27,148.92
 3. Fire Hydrant Tax Fund - \$9,006.84
 4. Refuse Tax Fund- \$ 120,289.04
 5. Park Capital Outlay Fund-\$899.81
 6. Sewer District #3 Fund- \$2,340,793.62
 7. Fire Protection -\$16,351.06 (Includes Fire Fighter Stipends)

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ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL (Continued)

2. List of Bills for Approval (Continued)

8. **Capital Fund-\$10,909.78**

3. Approval of the 2025 Meeting Schedule for Advertisement.
4. Resolution 2024-27- Tax Certification Fee
Request to approve Resolution 2024-27 to increase the fee for Tax Certifications issued by the Tax Collector of the Township from thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) to forty (\$40.00) dollars.
5. Wexcon Payment Application #8-Wyomissing Interceptor Project
Mr. Darrah said that the requested payment for this application is \$598,737.25.
6. Wexcon Payment Application #9-Wyomissing Interceptor Project
Mr. Darrah said that the requested payment for this application is \$1,074,123.16.
7. Change Order Requests- 6 & 8-Wyomissing Interceptor Project
Mr. Darrah stated that there were deductions and credits for the project. These change orders result in a credit to the Township in the amount of \$15,353.04.
8. Approval to Advertise- Use of Appointed Auditors for 2024 Audit
9. Information Sharing Agreement-Wilson School District-Tabled
10. Accessible Parking- 2700 Block of Girard Avenue
Chief Powell stated the traffic unit reviewed the request from a resident who uses a wheelchair and has no off-street parking. After the review, Chief Powell noted that approval of the request is recommended.
11. Formal Offer of Employment-Full-Time Director of Engineering
The Board's official approval of the promotion of Jason Reichert to the Township Director of Engineering.
12. 2025 At-will Employee Salary Increases-Tabled
13. Police Resignation/Separation Agreement
Chief Powell requested approval to accept an officer's resignation letter and authorization to execute the Separation Agreement upon review of both items by the Township Solicitor.

Motion to approve Action Items #1-8, 10, 11, & 13 was made by Mr. Wertz and seconded by Mr. Royer. Upon roll call, All Supervisors present voted affirmatively with the following abstentions: Mr. Wertz abstained from voting on payment for Fire Fund #14, Ms. Smith abstained from voting on payment of check 8717, and Mr. Stuck abstained from voting on payments to Reading Bearing & Drive Solutions, Reading Foundry & Supply Co. LLC, and Landis Bonfitto Mechanical Group, Inc.
MOTION CARRIED

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS

- A. Zoning/Building Codes Department – Mr. Wozniak submitted a monthly report.
- B. Parks and Recreation Department- No Report
- C. Engineering Department

- 1. 2408 Jefferson Avenue-Resolution for Plan Revision-Sewage Planning Module
Mr. Reichert stated that the resolution request is to revise the sewer plan for Edu's for that location. Entech Engineering Inc. has reviewed the Sewage Planning Module and recommends approval of the resolution.

Motion to approve the resolution for the plan revision for 2408 Jefferson Avenue was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Mr. Wertz. Upon roll call, All Supervisors present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED

- 2. WSD Lincoln Park Elementary-Resolution for Plan Revision-Sewage Planning Module
Mr. Reichert stated that the Wilson School District (WSD) is working through zoning, and they are working through their sewer plan. Entech Engineering Inc. has reviewed the Sewer Planning Module and recommends approval.

Motion to approve the resolution for the plan revision for the WSD Lincoln Park Elementary was made by Mr. Wertz and seconded by Mr. Royer. Upon roll call, All Supervisors present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED

- 3. Broadcasting Square-Building U (Former Chuck E Cheese)-Waiver of Land Development
Mr. Reichert stated that the applicant submitted a request for a waiver of the land development process for redevelopment of the building. Mr. Reichert reviewed the request, noting that the physical part of the building will remain as it is, with interior work expected to be done by the applicant, and much of the parking lot structure is going to remain the same. Mr. Reichert showed the areas that the applicant will revise, noting that the entrance on the bottom left of the illustration is being shifted closer to McDonald's side to create a new orientation at the back of the building for truck deliveries.

Mr. Reichert said the applicant, the Wine & Spirit Shop, currently located in the shopping center where TJ Max is located, submitted an updated parking layout to address concerns raised by Engineering and the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission (PC) reviewed those changes, including implementing parallel parking on the Wawa side, creating a grass strip, and installing parallel parking on the Chuck E Cheese side. The Planning Commission recommends approval of the waiver with conditions including making changes to the parking (which the applicant has done with the recent submittal), submitting As-builts, and the installation of a new fire hydrant if necessary.

Karen Cook, the solicitor representing the applicant, confirmed that the applicant would keep the building footprint the same. Interior renovations are planned, and the applicant is following the recommendation of Engineering and the Planning Commission to install four (4) parallel parking spaces so you are not backing up into the access drive.

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS (Continued)

C. Engineering Department (Continued)

3. Broadcasting Square-Building U (Former Chuck E Cheese) (Continued)

Motion to approve the waiver of Land Development for Broadcasting Square-Building U conditioned upon the comments provided in the review letter dated December 4th, 2024, as well as the Fire Marshall's email dated December 4, 2024, regarding fire hydrant placement was made by Mr. Royer and seconded by Mr. Wertz. Upon roll call, All Supervisors present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED

D. Finance Department –No Report

E. Human Resources –No Report

F. Public Works –Mr. Darrah submitted a monthly report. The new street sweeper was delivered today, and Mr. Darrah thanked the Board for approving the purchase.

PUBLIC SAFETY

A. Police Department – No Report

B. Township of Spring Fire Rescue Services – Chief Hackman submitted a monthly report.

C. West Side Regional EMA – No Report

D. Western Berks Ambulance Association –Monthly reported submitted.

SOLICITOR – No Report

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Animal Services Contract

After discussion, the Board agreed to authorize contracting with the services of Safety Net Sanctuary for 2025.

Motion was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Mr. Royer. Upon roll call, the Motion was approved by a vote of 3-1. Ms. Smith (yea), Mr. Royer (yea), Mr. Wertz (yea), and Mr. Stuck (nay). MOTION CARRIED

2. Library Support

After discussion, the Board agreed that the Township's donation to the library in 2025 will remain the same as in 2024.

3. Rural Trash Options/Exemptions

Mr. Groller stated that staff met multiple times to discuss rural trash and said the Township had received numerous calls from residents who have farms that are asking to be excluded as they have more extensive trash needs and have dumpster service, adding that these residents have concerns about a "mandatory requirement." The Board discussed the issue, and Mr. Becker noted that any change in trash pick-up would require an amendment to the Township's current ordinance. Mr. Groller confirmed for Mr. Royer that the Township will pay the full amount of the contract, including all exemptions the Township approves.

4. Park & Recreation Comprehensive Plan Comments

Mr. Groller stated that Ms. Houck will submit the comments received tomorrow to the consultant. Mr. Groller noted that Ms. Houck received one (1) response from the Board.

OLD BUSINESS: *(Continued)*

4. Park & Recreation Comprehensive Plan Comments *(Continued)*

Mr. Royer stated that the Board discussed some of the frustrations and lack of specificity in the Township's situations in this report. Mr. Royer mentioned mismatches between the recommended timelines and what the Township already does with some of those recommendations. Mr. Royer stated from his perspective, the Township is closer to finishing this process, which is a good thing.

NEW BUSINESS: -None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next meeting will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, December 23rd, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Vice-Chairperson Stuck adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary L. Rossi
Township Secretary