



# TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

Board of Supervisors

**BERKS COUNTY, PA**  
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## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2025

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice-Chairperson Royer called a regular business meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order on Monday, February 24, 2025, at 7:00 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 the roll call, Supervisors Stuck, Kocher, Wertz, and Royer were present. Also present were Dean Murray, Jen Bensinger, Jeremy Baez-Reyes, Chief Hackman, Judy Houck, Paul Darrah, Aaron Wozniak, Chief Powell, Jason Reichert, Colin Macfarlane, Esq. and Chaz Alden. William Koch Jr. attended the meeting via Zoom, and Ms. Smith joined the meeting via Zoom at 7:12 p.m.

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS:** None

### **OPEN TO THE FLOOR:**

Chaz Alden of Representative Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz's office said it is the time of year for property tax revenue rebates. Their office in Wyomissing is assisting constituents in getting up to \$1,000.00 back on their property tax or rent. They additionally have hours at the Township every first and third Friday.

### **ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL:**

Below are all items requiring action by the Board. Comments and discussion points are listed under the corresponding item.

1. Minutes from February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025
2. List of Bills for Approval
  1. 01- General Fund - \$380,519.39
  2. 02- Street Lighting Tax Fund - \$3,682.44
  3. 03- Fire Hydrant Tax Fund - \$11, 285.82
  4. 04- Refuse Tax Fund - \$146,112.64
  5. 08- Sewer District #3 Fund- \$814,455.53
  6. 14- Fire Protection-\$73,378.71
  7. 85-Developer Escrow-\$23,789.56
3. Authorization to Release Funds for 665 Fritztown Road  
Mr. Reichert stated that the request is the first release of funds for the Black Sheep Inn (Former Camelot Inn) Revitalization Project. The total sum of the requested release is \$23,789.56, and the Township is retaining \$5,257.88 due to remaining improvements, including an as-built survey and plan.

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

4. Authorization to Release Funds for the Reserve at Iroquois  
Mr. Reichert stated that the release request is for \$432,430.69. The Township is holding a remaining balance of \$210,013.81 primarily for remaining improvements on Iroquois Avenue and maintenance security for some of the public improvements such as streets and sanitary sewers.
5. Sale of Township Vehicles  
Mr. Murray requested authorization to complete the sale of two (2) Township vehicles. The 2014 Ford Taurus went for \$3500.00, and the 2008 Dodge Charger's highest bid was \$2100.00.
6. Approval of Purchase Order- Fire Rescue Equipment  
Chief Hackman respectfully requests the Board's approval to accept the Pennsylvania Office of the State Fire Commissioner's grant of \$16,322.02. This grant will partially cover the cost of purchasing four (4) complete sets of Structural Turnout Gear. Chief Hackman requested approval of Purchase Order FR-2025-0019 to Reading Fire Equipment, Inc. in the amount of \$20,251.56. After the grant is applied, the remaining balance is \$3,929.54, which will be funded out of the Fire Rescue Budget. Chief Hackman noted that only one COSTAR vendor would provide a quote due to a regional contract in place.
7. Approval of Purchase Order for Police Traffic Unit Equipment  
Chief Powell stated that the request is to replace the Department's large signboard and one of its traffic signs. Though these items are not budgeted, there are remaining funds in the Pilot Fund Account. The Pilot Fund will cover the cost of the items which total \$27,512.03.
8. Approval of the Police Chief Employment Agreement
9. Approval of Payment Application Request from Schwing Biojet for Screw Press Upgrade Project-Mr. Darrah stated the Township received a grant for the Project, and the payment request of \$130,610.00 is to purchase the machine.
10. Approval of Demolition and Replacement of Concession/Press Box Building at Red Caboose Park-Ms. Houck provided a memo to the Board and reviewed the request, noting that the building was built in the early 90's by the Lincoln Park Football Association. It has only been used for storage by the Little League Association recently. Ms. Houck stated that it had been determined through various inspections that the best option for this building would be to have it removed and put a storage shed on the existing concrete slab so the Township could maintain the electrical box. Staff will remove the building. Ms. Houck confirmed for Mr. Wertz that an electrician would install the electrical panel after the shed is installed.

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

10. Approval of Demolition and Replacement of Concession/Press Box Building at the Red Caboose Park (Continued)

Ms. Houck confirmed for Mr. Royer that two (2) associations were affiliated with the facility. Spring Township Athletic Association became Liberty Youth Baseball. The football association still exists, but it has not used the field since 2009. Ms. Houck stated that the Township has storage at the site as well as a dusk-to-dawn light, noting that the electricity for that comes out of that box, and the Township does not want to lose the electric source on that side of the park.

11. Award of the Bid for the Green Light Go Traffic Signal Project

Kraft Municipal Group recommends that the Township award the Green Light-Go Traffic Signal Improvement Project to C.M. High in the amount of \$517,000.00.

*Motion to approve Action Items #1-11 was made by Mr. Stuck and seconded by Mr. Wertz. Upon roll call, All Supervisors present voted affirmatively with the following abstentions:*

- *Mr. Stuck abstaining from voting on Action Item #3*
- *Mr. Wertz abstained from voting on Action Item #1, Action Item #2- payment of the Fire Fund, and Action Item #6*
- *Mr. Kocher abstained on Action # 8-Noting that he had not seen the agreement.*
- *Ms. Smith abstained from voting on all Action Items as she joined the meeting late.*

*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 -No Report

D. Finance Department- No Report

E. Human Resources–Mr. Murray updated the Board on pending items.

F. Public Works -Mr. Darrah stated that the Township had received a grant for what was called the Reading Avenue Dig and Replace Project in the amount of \$275,000.00 approximately a year and a half ago. Mr. Darrah stated the Project was initially for Reading Avenue, but other areas need to be included. Mr. Darrah reviewed areas on Garfield Avenue, noting that during high-flow events, residents experienced backups in those areas. During the research into the issues, staff found nine (9) different sags in the line where it was going underwater and did not allow the water during high water events to flow through as quickly. Due to the significant price increase in expanding the Project, Mr. Darrah stated that he is seeking guidance from the Board on how they would like to proceed. Mr. Darrah confirmed with Mr. Wertz that Garfield Avenue is the worst area and reviewed the issues, including areas in West Lawn. Mr. Darrah stated that the repairs in the Garfield Avenue area are expected to cost approximately \$1,500,000.00, confirming for Ms. Smith that approximately \$1,400,000.00 has been budgeted. Mr. Darrah reviewed suggestions from the Township's Road engineer. Ms. Smith questioned if the grant received could be used for Garfield Avenue, Mr. Darrah said the engineer is looking into that.

**TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS (Continued)**

**F. Public Works (Continued)**

After review and discussion, the Board took the following action:

*Motion by Mr. Stuck and seconded by Mr. Wertz for authorization to put the Reading Avenue Dig and Replacement Project out to bid, comprising solely of Garfield and Reading Avenue.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**G. IT Department-No Report**

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

- A. Police Department –Chief Powell submitted a Monthly Report.
- B. Township of Spring Fire Rescue Services – No report
- C. West Side Regional EMA – No Report
- D. Western Berks Ambulance Association– No Report

**SOLICITOR** – Mr. Macfarlane stated that the Board had an Executive Session to discuss personnel and collective bargaining negotiations issues before the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:** –None

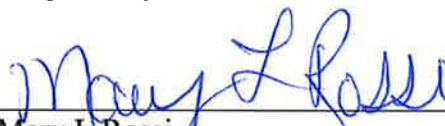
**NEW BUSINESS:** –None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- 1) The Vision Meeting scheduled for this Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, has been rescheduled to Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.
- 2) The next regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** *There* being no further business, Vice-Chairperson Royer adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary L. Rossi  
Township Secretary