



# TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

Board of Supervisors

BERKS COUNTY, PA  
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## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Smith called a regular business meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order on Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 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.

### **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**ROLL CALL:** Upon roll call, Supervisors Stuck, Kocher, Royer, Wertz, and Smith were present. Also present were the Township Manager; John Groller, Assistant Township Manager; Dean Murray, Township Secretary; Mary Rossi, GIS Engineering & Planning Coordinator; Jen Bensinger, Information Systems Manager; Jeremy Baez-Reyes, Fire Chief; Colin Hackman, Director of Parks and Recreation; Judy Houck, Police Chief; Steve Brock, Director of Engineering and Planning; Jason Reichert, Solicitor; Dan Becker, Matt Boggs of Entech Engineering, Kelly Reifsnnyder & Family, Marcy Owens, Tracy Daniels, Dave & Jeanne Brock & Other Family Members of Steve Brock, Fellow Officers of the Spring Township Police Department, Lincoln Park Youth Bulldog Football Players, State Representative Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz, Felix Freytiz, Chazz Alden of Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz's office, and Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Powell. BB-Steve Brock's Brother & Family in California, and Michelle Parke, Court Reporter, Attended via Microsoft Teams.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Ms. Smith announced that an Executive Session was held before this meeting to discuss personnel matters.

### **AGENDA AMENDMENTS:** None

### **RECOGNITION:** Kelly A. Reifsnnyder

**Resolution 2025-20 - RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Spring, Berks County, Pennsylvania, recognizes Kelly A Reifsnnyder, Assistant Treasurer, Pay Master, Customer Service Supervisor, Delinquent Sewer Bill Collector, and Assistant Open Records Officer of the Township of Spring, **RECOGNIZING her 23 years of service.**

**RESOLVED**, that the Township of Spring Board of Supervisors, staff, and residents acknowledge her years of service with appreciation.

**BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this Resolution and, therefore, official verification of her years of service to the Township, will become a permanent record of this municipality, and a copy shall be forwarded to Ms. Reifsnnyder. On behalf of the Township of Spring, the Board of Supervisors wishes Ms. Reifsnnyder success in her future endeavors.

**RECOGNITION:** Kelly A. Reifsnyder (*Continued*)

State Representative Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz stated that she wished to congratulate and honor Ms. Reifsnyder, wishing her the best in the next chapter of her life, presented Ms. Reifsnyder with a Citation on behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, signed by the Speaker of the House.

**RECOGNITION:** Stephen D. Powell

**Resolution 2025-21-RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Spring, Berks County, Pennsylvania, recognizes Stephen D. Powell, **RECOGNIZING his 34 years of service in public service.** Stephen retired from the Reading Police Department and went on to continue his career in the West Reading Police Department, and finished his career of service as Chief of Police for the Township of Spring's Police Department.

**RESOLVED**, that the Township of Spring Board of Supervisors, staff, and residents acknowledge his years of service with appreciation.

**BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this Resolution and, therefore, official verification of his years of service to the Township, will become a permanent record of this municipality, and a copy shall be forwarded to Mr. Powell. On behalf of the Township of Spring, the Board of Supervisors wishes Mr. Powell success in his future endeavors.

State Representative Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz stated on behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, we thank Mr. Powell for giving of his heart, being courageous in protecting and serving the lives of so many in our community, on behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Ms. Johanny Cepeda Freytiz presented Mr. Powell with a Citation, wishing him the very best in the next chapter of his life, thanking him again for being such an outstanding public servant, and for everything he has done to enrich the lives of so many.

**PINNING CEREMONY:** Chief Stephen D Brock

**Resolution 2025-22-RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Spring, Berks County, Pennsylvania, recognizes Stephen D Brock. This resolution is to officially recognize and install the Township's new Chief of Police, Stephen D Brock. "Chief Brock, this badge, which will be pinned upon you today, signifies your commitment to lead with integrity, to uphold justice, and to ensure the safety and well-being of all our citizens".

"This moment symbolizes not only a personal achievement but also the beginning of a new chapter for our police department and our community. We are confident that under your leadership, we will continue to build on our strengths, fostering an environment of respect, collaboration, and proactive service. "Chief Brock, we look forward to the journey ahead with you as Chief of Police of the Township of Spring Police Department. Congratulations!"

**RESOLVED**, that the Township of Spring Board of Supervisors, staff, and residents welcome our new Chief of Police, Stephen D Brock.

**BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this** Resolution and, therefore, official verification of this ceremony will become a permanent record of this municipality, and a copy shall be forwarded to Chief Brock.

**PINNING CEREMONY:** Chief Stephen D Brock *(Continued)*

On behalf of the Township of Spring, the Board of Supervisors welcomes Chief Stephen D Brock.

Chief Brock congratulated Ms. Reifsnnyder and Mr. Powell on their retirement, noting his appreciation for all they have done for the Township. Chief Brock thanked the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Groller, and Mr. Murray for their belief in him and for giving him this opportunity. He also thanked Ms. Stewart and Mr. Becker for working out the contract details.

Chief Brock stated that he was born in Reading Hospital and lived in Lincoln Park as a child. After moving out of the area for a few years, Chief Brock and his family returned to the area in the summer before 5<sup>th</sup> grade, settling in Colony Park, where he grew up and attended Wilson High School. Chief Brock said that after college, he began his Police career in Wilmington, Delaware. He desired the same opportunities for his son that he had growing up in this area, so when a job opportunity became available, he applied and was hired to join the Spring Township Police Department. Chief Brock stated that the Township is more than just a place where he works; he is invested in this community, having grown up here and raised his son here, and coaches football. He noted that some of his players are in attendance this evening, which he greatly appreciates.

Chief Brock stated that he is deeply honored to have been chosen to lead the Police Department and help protect the community he cares about so much. Professionally, Chief Brock said that he would like to thank former Chief Mike Messner, may he rest in peace, for hiring him initially, Bryan Ross who was the Chief of Police for most of his career, allowing him numerous specialized opportunities, and an extra thanks to Stephen Powell, who took him under his wing and guided him and taught him a lot, assisting in his obtaining the position he is in today. Chief Powell thanked all his former coworkers and partners, as well as members of the Department, who were in attendance this evening. He thanked his girlfriend, Shannon, and her son, James. His son Liam, who is away at Temple, his parents, who are in attendance this evening, his brother and family, who are on Teams as they live in California, and all his friends, family, coaches, coworkers, players, and their families who showed up tonight, he appreciates all the support.

To the men and women of the Township of Spring Police Department: “Thank you to all who came out tonight. We will learn and grow together as we embark on this new chapter, continuing to make this the best Police Department in Berks County”. “Thank you again for this opportunity to share a few words this evening.”

Ms. Smith thanked everyone who came out this evening to support the Township's excellent staff.

**OPEN TO THE FLOOR:** No Public Comment

**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 of the August 11<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting

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

2. List of Bills for Approval
  1. **01-General Fund - \$495,200.99**
  2. **02-Street Lighting Tax Fund- \$2,559.22**
  3. **03-Fire Hydrant Tax Fund-\$2,278.98**
  4. **04-Refuse Tax Fund-\$18,852.09**
  5. **08-Sewer District #3 Fund-\$311,550.02**
  6. **14-Fire Protection- \$74,499.62**
  7. **18-Capital Fund- \$15,113.56**
  8. **35- Street Liquid Fuels Fund-\$208,038.95**
3. Resolution 2025-18-Appointment- Township Assistant Treasurer-Marcy Owens
4. Authorization to Bid Cleaning Contract
5. Resolution 2025-19- LSA Grant Application for a new Brush Tractor
6. Appointment- Police Chief to Transportation Advisory Committee
7. F.O.G Program Ordinance-Authorization to Advertise
8. Wexcon Inc. Payment Application- Authorization Request of Payment Application #10 submitted by Wexcon Inc. for work completed on the Wyomissing Interceptor Project. Entech Engineering Inc. reviewed the request and recommended approval of the Application for Payment in the amount of \$43,765.17.
9. Eastern Environmental Contractors, Inc. Payment Application- Authorization Request of Payment Application #6 submitted by Eastern Environmental Contractors, Inc. for work completed on the Screw Press Upgrade Project. Entech Engineering Inc. reviewed the request and recommended approval of the Application for Payment in the amount of \$79,372.05.
10. Eastern Environmental Change Order Request- Mr. Boggs reviewed the Change Order request submitted by Eastern Environmental Contractors, Inc. The Change Order was to repair the existing water pipe that broke during excavation for the Pista Grit trench, and to install updated manhole covers that match the Township's system. Entech Engineering Inc. reviewed the request and recommended approval in the amount of \$2,965.00.

*7:15 p.m.-Ms. Smith recessed the Regular Business Meeting to reconvene the Public Hearing for the Delaney-Blimline Road Property.*

Mr. Becker began the Hearing, noting that Court Stenographer Michelle Parke was in attendance via Microsoft Teams. Mr. Becker stated that the Attorney for the Delaneys requested an extension for the Hearing, requesting to hold the Hearing on Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

*Motion to approve an extension of the Delaney Hearing until September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, at 7:15 p.m. was made by Mr. Stuck and seconded by Mr. Wertz. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED.*

*Ms. Smith reconvened the Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting at 7:20 p.m.*

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

11. Drexelwood Park Stormwater Project-Mr. Reichert requested authorization to bid on a small Stormwater Project in Drexelwood Park. The project will address a drainage issue, noting that when it rains, there is some flooding coming from the playground. There is a small rerouting of stormwater that flows from Wellington Boulevard into the park, ponds a little in the field area and then reroutes back out onto Wellington Boulevard. Mr. Reichert noted that the water that ponds up goes into some residents' yards. This project will involve a minor modification to the features in that location to enable the water to leave the park more quickly. Great Valley Consultants estimated the cost of construction to be \$17,895.00.

12. Cornwall Terrace Park Athletic Court Project

Ms. Houck provided the Board with a memo regarding pickleball courts at Cornwall Terrace Park.

Mr. Stuck questioned whether anyone had investigated noise-cancelling screening, as members of the Parks and Recreation Board had concerns about the potential noise of the proposed pickleball courts. Mr. Groller noted that noise-canceling screening has not been investigated at this time, the proposal is to determine that courts could fit in that location, where the courts were budgeted to be resurfaced, redoing the basketball courts, and installing two (2) pickleball courts.

Ms. Smith questioned whether there would be a small fence between the pickleball courts and the basketball courts to prevent the balls from rolling into each other's courts. Ms. Houck stated that installing a fence was not part of the plan, noting that there is a 12-foot space between the courts. Ms. Houck explained that when she spoke to the equipment manager about it, she asked if that was an issue. Ms. Houck stated that the equipment manager said they have other municipalities with the same layout, and there have not been any issues. If problems do occur, they suggested addressing them at that time, rather than creating a barrier that someone could fall back into.

Mr. Kocher questioned whether there was any reason why the Township couldn't investigate installing pickleball courts at Shiloh Hills Park. Mr. Groller noted that the area is a large plot of land that the Township will most likely develop into multi-use recreational uses. Mr. Kocher pointed out that the Parks and Recreation Board is in favor of pickleball courts, but not in Cornwall Terrace Park, citing potential noise concerns, parking issues, and the recommendation of the Comprehensive Study.

Mr. Murray stated that when staff visited the Cornwall Terrace Park site, they found pickleball tape markings in the tennis courts, indicating that residents are using the tennis courts as pickleball courts.

13. Traffic Ordinance Amendment- Mr. Reichert reviewed the project staff worked on for signage in the Township, noting that the Ordinance will bring everything up to date. The draft is with the Solicitor's office.

14. Stormwater Operations & Maintenance Agreement- 415 Vinemont Road-This is for a small pole building.

15. Purchase Order- Repair of the Ford F-550-Mr. Murray provided a purchase order for repair of the Ford F-550. The quote for the repair from Tom Masano Mercedes-Benz is \$10,986.76.  
Mr. Murray confirmed for Mr. Stuck that a DPF is a sensor.

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

16. Martins Paving Inc. Payment Application-Kraft Municipal Group reviewed the payment request from Martins Paving Inc. for the 2025 Roadwork Project Maintenance Contract (Oil and Chip). Kraft Municipal Group recommends approval of the final payment request from Martins Paving Inc. in the amount of \$208,038.95.
  
17. Formal Offer of Employment- Full-Time Finance Customer Service Administrative Assistant  
The offer is for Jodi Kurtz, with an official start date of August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at a starting salary of \$25.50 per hour.

*Motion to approve Action Items #1 through #17 was made by Mr. Stuck and seconded by Mr. Wertz. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively, except for the following: Mr. Stuck voted no on payment 114682, Mr. Wertz abstained from voting on payment of Fire Fund #14, Mr. Kocher voted no on Action Item #12, and Ms. Smith abstained from voting on the payment of check 114688. MOTION CARRIED*

**TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS**

- A. Zoning/Building Department –Mr. Wozniak submitted a Monthly Report  
Mr. Wozniak updated the Board regarding the junkyard on Penn Avenue, confirming for Mr. Royer that the tenant has vacated the premises. Mr. Stuck questioned a complaint on Reading Avenue regarding a bathroom window. Ms. Smith asked for an update on the permanent "yard sale" on Wernersville Road. Mr. Wozniak briefed the Board regarding the meeting with the property owner on Wernersville Road. Mr. Wozniak confirmed for Mr. Stuck that the property on Marie Drive is undergoing the County Blight process, noting that this is the best tool for the Township to use for abandoned properties. Ms. Smith asked Mr. Wozniak to address a large dead tree at the intersection of Cecil Avenue and Highland Street (where it curves on Cecil).
  
- B. Parks and Recreation Department –Ms. Houck submitted a Monthly Report
- C. Engineering Department– No Report
- D. Finance Department– No Report
- E. Human Resources– No Report
  
- F. Public Works – Mr. Murray prepared a monthly report, reviewing the outline from information submitted by the leaders in all the groups, highlighting what all the departments in Public Works are doing on a daily and weekly basis, and will get a better idea of what is done monthly, noting that staff are very busy. Mr. Royer stated that he was at several different soccer fields earlier this evening and was complimentary of the condition of the fields at Cacoosing Meadows Park.
  
- G. IT Department – No Report

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

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

**SOLICITOR:** – No Report

**OLD BUSINESS:** – Baker Road-Mr. Murray stated that he and Mr. Fultz went out to review the road conditions, following a letter from a resident addressed to Ms. Smith. Mr. Murray said that some areas need attention, and staff will perform some skim patching. The area will be reviewed as part of next year's paving project.

Mr. Reichert updated the Board on the status of Wheatfield Road, as requested by Mr. Stuck, noting that it is expected to be completed this year.

**NEW BUSINESS:** –None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- 1) The Township's Officials Annual County Convention is scheduled for Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Ms. Rossi.
- 2) The next Board Meeting of Supervisors is scheduled for Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, Chairperson Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary L Rossi  
Township Secretary