



TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

Board of Supervisors

BERKS COUNTY, PA
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 13TH, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Royer called a regular business meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order on Monday, April 13th, 2026, at 7:12 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 Robertson, Wertz, Zeoli, Stuck, and Royer were present. Also present were 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 & Recreation Judy Houck, Director of Zoning & Codes Enforcement Aaron Wozniak, Police Chief Stephen Brock, Director of Engineering & Planning Jason Reichert, Esquire Dan Becker, Anthony Tucci, Thomas & Pat Crotty, Art & Louise Grim, Linda Angst, Emily McNulty, and Mark Hahn. Director of Public Works Craig Conrad attended via TEAMS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Royer stated that an Executive Session was held prior to this meeting to discuss matters of real estate, personnel, and potential litigation.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS: None

OPEN TO THE FLOOR:

Thomas Crotty, resident of the Shiloh Hills Development and member of What'SUP Berks
Mr. Crotty explained that What'SUP Berks is an advocacy group advocating for the ban of single-use plastic bags in Berks County. Mr. Crotty introduced the Executive Board in attendance. The group has a lot of community support, Berks Nature sponsors the group, and last year the group received a \$12,000.00 grant from the Berks County Community Foundation. Mr. Crotty stated that, for a couple of years, the group has raised awareness and educated folks about the problem with single-use plastic.

At this time, the group has over 600 signatures of support and has been collaborating with city officials. Mr. Crotty noted they have spoken with several municipalities and that the City of Reading is expected to finalize an Ordinance banning the use of single-use bags. Mr. Crotty stated the importance of this issue is the environment- trash & litter, the problem of micro-plastics in streams and rivers, and that micro-plastics are found in our bodies.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR: (Continued)

Thomas Crotty, resident of the Shiloh Hills Development and member of What'SUP Berks (Continued)

Mr. Crotty added the economic impact, noting that PennDOT spends \$13,000,000.00 annually on litter abatement and clean-up. Finally, Mr. Crotty said that it makes no sense to manufacture a plastic bag that is used for a few minutes and will lie around for hundreds of years.

Mr. Crotty requested support for a single-use plastic bag ban in the Township and asked to be added to the agenda to discuss the issue in more depth. Mr. Crotty said they are excited because the group has been invited to participate in Wilson Junior High's Field & Stream activities.

Mr. Crotty stated that forty (40) municipalities in PA have banned the use of single-use plastic bags, noting that copies of the ordinances were provided to the Board in the folders that were distributed. Twelve (12) states have issued statewide bans and noted that legislation is currently in the PA House. Mr. Crotty thanked the Board for their time and the work they do to make Spring Township a great place to live and raise a family.

Mr. Stuck asked whether the group had approached the County for a County-wide ban. Mr. Crotty stated that it is his understanding that, in PA, it is decided by municipalities, noting that the County Commissioners stated they do not have the authority.

Mark Hahn of 919 Cacoosing Drive, resident of the Township for thirty-five (35) years, stated that there has always been a problem making a left-hand turn from Wernersville Road onto Fritztown Road. Mr. Hahn was appreciative of the road work done in that area, but now the issue is that a sign has been erected on the right-hand side of the property, obstructing the view when you make a left-hand turn. Mr. Hahn said that when you pull up to the line to make a left-hand turn, you need to inch out to see. Due to the sign's location, you can't see the cars flying down the hill, which is a safety issue.

Mr. Wozniak reported that the Codes Department has received a few calls regarding this issue and will review the issue with staff. Mr. Hahn pointed out on the screen exhibit where the sign is located. Mr. Wozniak stated that staff will look into it and have information and recommendations at the next Board meeting.

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 March 23rd Regular Business Meeting
2. List of Bills for Approval

01- General Fund - \$603,776.55

02- Street Lighting Tax Fund-\$24,832.54

03- Fire Hydrant Tax Fund- \$9,078.02

04- Refuse Tax Fund-\$217,367.92

08- Sewer District #3 Fund- \$439,171.30

14- Fire Protection- \$107,064.21

18- Capital Fund- \$469.36

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL: *(Continued)*

3. Retroactive Bill List Approval from March 23rd, 2026
List provided due to the incorrect list provided on the table at the last meeting.
4. Trinity Solar-Permit Fee Reimbursement Request
Mr. Wozniak stated that Trinity Solar submitted a request for partial reimbursement of paid permit fees due to the applicants' canceling the request. Mr. Wozniak explained that the homeowners canceled the permit, noting that little time was spent on the review. Fees were deducted for review for four (4) applications, and the total reimbursement for Trinity Solar is \$1,283.00.
5. LSA Grant
Mr. Murray requested approval for authorized signatures and to start the ordering process to purchase a street sweeper and two (2) police cars, noting that the Township is required to pay up front for the purchases and then the Township will be reimbursed.
6. Resolution 2026-14 Destruction of Records
7. Authorization to sell Equipment on Public Surplus
Mr. Murray requested authorization to sell a Township truck.
8. Broadcast District Escrow Release
Mr. Reichert requested approval for release #2 for the Broadcast District Escrow. Great Valley Consultants (GV) has reviewed the work completed to date and recommends approval of the request in the amount of \$1,048,435.70, noting that the remaining escrow for ongoing work will be \$12,540,036.97.
9. 2026 Roadwork Bid
Mr. Murray stated that Kraft Engineering has completed their review of the bids received for the 2026 roadwork. Kraft recommends awarding the bid for roadwork to the lowest bidder, H&K Group, Inc., with a bid of \$1,193,340.00, and the maintenance portion to Martin Paving, Inc., with the lowest bid of \$163,542.04. Mr. Murray stated that the numbers are very favorable for the Township coming in under budget, and that all the roads the Township wanted done will be completed.
10. 2026 Emergency Repairs Bid
Mr. Murray requested Board authorization to award the 2026 Emergency Repairs bid to A.H. Moyer, confirming that Schlouch Inc. did not bid this year.
11. Formal Offers of Employment
Mr. Groller requested approval for two (2) formal offers of employment for the Public Works Department. The first offer is for Eric Hirst at a starting salary of \$27.67 per hour, and the second offer is for David Wenrich at the same starting salary.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL: (Continued)

12. Accessible Parking- 2731 Grandview Boulevard

Chief Brock reported that the Department received a request for accessible parking at 2731 Grandview Boulevard. A Traffic Officer reviewed the location and recommended that the Board deny the request.

13. Resolution 2026-15 Berks County Joint Cooperative Council

Mr. Groller stated that the resolution states that the Township Assistant Manager and the Director of Parks and Recreation shall serve as the Township's representatives to the Berks County Joint Cooperative Purchasing Council. These two (2) positions were appointed at the Reorganization Meeting, and a follow-up with an updated resolution is required.

14. Purchase of Public Works Director Vehicle

Mr. Murray requested authorization to purchase the budgeted Ford Explorer. The total cost for the vehicle is \$37,177.00, which came in \$5,823.00 under budget.

Motion to approve Action Items #1-#14 was made by Mr. Stuck and seconded by Mr. Wertz.

Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively, with Mr. Stuck abstaining from voting on payment for checks #116240 & 116302, and Mr. Wertz abstaining from voting on payment for Fire Fund #14. MOTION CARRIED

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS:

A. Zoning/Building Codes Department

- 1) Mr. Wozniak submitted a Monthly Report. Mr. Wozniak noted that the report indicates that the Township is beginning to receive fees from contractors for the Broadcast District Project. The contractors expect to begin the foundations for the apartments on May 22nd, and the commercial properties on June 1st, with a two (2) year build window. Mr. Wozniak confirmed for Mr. Stuck that the Township has not received applications for the Townhouse at this time, noting that the apartments and the major commercial structures will be built first.

Mr. Wozniak said that he is happy to report that the former Pizza Hut on Penn Avenue no longer looks like a Pizza Hut. The property will be a 4-unit property, with one unit being a Notary, noting that the other 3 uses are unknown at this time. Mr. Wozniak confirmed to Mr. Royer that contractors are working on repairs and upgrades to the building. Mr. Reichert confirmed that a review was completed and that most of the work is interior.

- 2) Apple Dumpling Festival- Mr. Wozniak requested approval to issue a Public Gathering Permit for the annual Apple Dumpling Festival. This year, the festival will be held Thursday, May 7th, through Saturday, May 9th. Mr. Wozniak and the Fire Marshal will inspect the site before the start of the festival.

Motion to approve the Public Gathering permit for the Apple Dumpling Festival was made by Mr. Stuck and seconded by Mr. Zeoli. Upon roll call, all Supervisors present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORS: *(Continued)*

- B. Parks and Recreation Department- Ms. Houck said the Township sponsored Fishing Rodeo is this Saturday, April 18th, with the youth starting at 8:00 a.m. and the Seniors starting at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Royer stated that he attended the Fightin' Phils game on Saturday after Township representatives had left, inquiring whether everything went well. Ms. Houck stated that it did, and that many Township residents took advantage of the free tickets and that all giveaways were distributed.

- C. Engineering/Planning Department– Mr. Reichert stated that just about everything is wrapped up with the Solicitor's Office for Metropolitan regarding Iroquois Avenue, noting that the barricades have been removed, and you can drive through Iroquois Avenue.
- D. Finance Department– No Report
- E. Human Resources – No Report
- F. Public Works -No Report
- G. IT Department– No Report

Mr. Groller said that Mr. Baez-Reyes is working on obtaining the phone quote and has done a great job with the cell phone upgrades.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- A. Police Department –Chief Brock submitted a Monthly 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 Report was submitted. Mr. Tucci stated that the Western Berks Ambulance Association (WBAA) will not replace its mobile radios.

SOLICITOR: No Report

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Safety Radio Replacement Project

Mr. Groller reported that the County is once again implementing the public safety radio replacement process, which includes Police, Fire, WBAA, and EMA. All have equipment that needs to be replaced, and the County will be offering a 7-year loan to purchase it, as it has done previously. Chief Hackman said that this time, the loans will not be interest-free, it will be a pass-through loan: whatever the County receives in rates, they will pass on to the user.

The current equipment is older and does not support software updates; parts are not available for repairs, and it may not be compatible with new accessories. Chief Hackman said the County is in current negotiations with Motorola.

OLD BUSINESS:

Harvard Boulevard

Mr. Reichert stated that he reached out to Great Valley Consultants (GVC), and they prepared an updated cost estimate. In addition to the updated costs, the Codes Department did a survey of all the sidewalks on Harvard Boulevard that were in disrepair or did not meet code.

OLD BUSINESS: (Continued)

Harvard Boulevard (Continued)

Mr. Reichert said that the Engineering Department pulled quantities from the address provided by the Codes Department for sidewalks and added them to the cost estimates provided by GVC.

Mr. Groller stated that documentation was found that had been sent to homeowners by the Township regarding projects and the assessment used previously. Mr. Groller stated that the staff is seeking direction from the Board on what they are comfortable allowing and will update the Ordinance. Discussion touched on potential rates and property transfers.

Mr. Zeoli said that there could be value in the Township developing a short- and long-term assessment to present before a Town Hall. Mr. Groller agreed that the Township must obtain as much information as possible before meeting with residents.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Chairperson Royer adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.



Respectfully submitted,

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

Mary L Rossi
Township Secretary