

**Board of Supervisors**

**MINUTES**

April 13, 2010

Jim Brownlow, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Board held an executive session prior to the meeting to discuss land acquisition.

**Supervisors Present:** Karen Bedics, Jim Brownlow, Barbara Lindtner **Absent:** Volker Oakey & Rob Zisko  
**Also present:** Terry Clemons, Solicitor; Sandy Everitt, Secretary/Treasurer; Mark Laudenslager, Chief of Police; and Rich Schilling, Township Manager.

**Minutes**

The Board is sensitive to those residents who follow township events by reading online minutes, but adoption of the March 23, 2010, minutes had to be tabled until a majority of supervisors who attended the March 23 meeting is present to vote.

**Bills for Approval**

Barbara Lindtner **moved** to approve the following bills paid from March 26 through April 13, 2010:

1. General Fund	\$75,303.79	4. Open Space	\$17,054.80
2. Liquid Fuels	\$ 4,352.48	5. Subdivision Escrow	\$ 3,623.03
3. Highway Capital Improvement	\$ 803.35	6. Farmer's Market	\$ 280.43

Karen Bedics wants the Open Space Committee to be aware of the significant engineering costs (\$6,600) involved in preserving one property. The Township Manager will research this matter. Barbara Lindtner **moved** to approve payment of the bills. Karen Bedics **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

**Reports**

**Police Report** – (Posted on website) During March, Springfield officers handled 170 incidents, 17 were criminal in nature, with the State Police handling an additional 16 calls. \$5,679 of property was stolen with \$75 recovered. Barbara Lindtner commended Officer McDonald for his handling of an incident in March and the department as a whole for their service to residents. Karen thanked the police for again supporting the Cooks Creek Watershed Association's roadside cleanup. Jim Brownlow asked if there were trends of which residents should be aware. The Chief said home burglaries tend to increase during nice weather, and they are occurring mainly in daylight hours. With the poor economy, burglars are seizing any opportunity to make a dollar. Exploration continues to take place on beginning a Town Watch program in the township. The Chief was excused after his report.

**Road Department** – (Posted) Rich Schilling highlighted the recent major pipe work project done in Springtown on Center Street. Significant work relating to storm damage was done in March. Rich Pursell presented three memos relating Road Department issues for Board action.

The 1986 dump truck needs replacement. Rich Pursell has located a 2000 GMC truck with low mileage in a Berks County township for between \$32 - \$35,000, which can be purchased from Liquid Fuels. A similar new truck would cost approximately \$100,000. Barbara Lindtner suggested that Rich Schilling look into financing options, using Liquid Fuels to pay for the loan, rather than taking the full amount from Liquid Fuels immediately. There are associated costs and administrative steps involved with taking out a loan—DCED requirements, debt statement preparation, legal expenses, etc.

Barbara Lindtner **moved** to authorize purchase of the used 2000 GMC dump truck (at a cost up to \$35,000), to proceed with the roadwork in Springtown (at a cost up to \$20,000 to be covered by Liquid Fuels), and to purchase the superpave blacktop from the CoStars program, as described and listed in Rich Pursell's March 30, 2010 memos. Karen Bedics **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

**Township Manager** – Rich Schilling has a meeting Thursday regarding the \$33,569 CDBG Grant to put in a handicap accessible bathroom and entrance doors. He hopes to begin work on that project sometime in May.

The additional software needed to manipulate the GIS data will be purchased when funds are available, after which training can be scheduled for interested committee members.

### **Public Comments on Agenda Items**

Jeff Lindtner said that the in-house GIS has been of immeasurable help to the Open Space Committee and they are looking forward to saving Open Space funds in the future by utilizing the Township's GIS information. Jeff also noted that there is a potential funding amount of \$20,000 available toward the total cost of \$35,000 needed to install various bridge security features.

### **Planning Matters**

**Upper Bucks Agricultural Collaborative** – Neil Sullivan, Sullivan Building Group, represented the Heinz Springtown Historic Preservation project. The Planning Commission unanimously recommended preliminary approval for this important historical restoration plan in Springtown. Mr. Sullivan provided drawings and plans of the proposed project. Barbara Lindtner **moved** to grant preliminary approval to the Heinz Springtown Historic Preservation land development project, and to grant the requested waivers listed in 3.A – E of the engineer's review letter, conditional upon completion of the outstanding items listed within the March 15, 2010, engineer's review letter. Karen Bedics **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

### **New Business**

**1. Earned Income Tax Collection Committee Delegate's Report** – Irene Elinich, voting delegate to the Bucks County TCC, provided a written report on the March 25, 2010, meeting of the group. Jim Brownlow asked what issues of concern had come up within the committee. There is considerable disagreement about the voting options for delegates—weighted votes versus one/man-one/vote. After much discussion, the committee voted for the weighted vote was incorporated into the by-laws. Another concern is that day meetings may be scheduled, which would eliminate participation of many delegates not available during the day. Act 511 permits collection of certain other taxes (LST tax for Springfield Township) by the new central collection system. On behalf of the Board, Jim Brownlow thanked Irene for her insight, and for the time and effort expended to serve on this important committee.

**2. Springfield Township's 2010 TCC Assessment** - Karen Bedics **moved** to authorize payment of Springfield Township's 2010 TCC appropriation of \$652.50. Barbara Lindtner **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

**3. Resolution authorizing Bucks County TCC to Apply for DCED Grant** - Barbara Lindtner **moved** to adopt Resolution 2010-008 authorizing Springfield Township's support for the Bucks County TCC to file an application with the DCED for a grant to assist with start-up costs. Karen Bedics **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

**4. Resolution Updating Authorized Pension Officers** – Barbara Lindtner **moved** to adopt Resolution 2010-009 which updates the persons authorized to act on behalf of the Township's Pension Plans to Richard Schilling and Sandy Everitt. Jim Brownlow **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

**5. Police Contract Addendum** – Act 51 of 2009 provides an option for moving the responsibility of covering insurance coverage of police officers killed in the line of duty from local entities to the State. The state coverage includes provision for COLA increases for the surviving spouse, which was not possible with the coverage currently paid for by the Township. Jim Brownlow **moved** to approve Addendum 1 to the police contract authorizing state insurance coverage for the police killed-in-service death benefit. Barbara Lindtner **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

**6. Authorization to Advertise Ordinance Amending Police Pension Plan** – Karen Bedics **moved** to authorize advertisement of a hearing to review and possibly adopt an ordinance to amend the Police Pension Plan to change the police killed-in-service death benefit coverage from the Township to the State. This will be on the agenda for the April 27 meeting. Barbara Lindtner **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

**7. Request from Applicant for Additional Open Space Funding** – An applicant submitted a letter to the Board requesting them to authorize additional funding of \$1,000 per acre. The Board can take action to either withdraw the original offer or to increase the offer. If the Board takes no action, the original offer stands. Karen Bedics **moved** to augment the original offer by an additional \$1,000 per acre for the preservation of the 47-acre property—a total of \$47,000 additional funding. There being no second, the motion **failed**.

**8. UCC Appeal Board & Authorization to Advertise for Board Vacancies** – Barbara Lindtner **moved** to authorize advertising for qualified applicants to serve on the UCC Board and to prepare a Resolution for possible adoption at the April 27, 2010, meeting. Jim Brownlow **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

**Public Comment - None**

**Supervisors Comments**

**Barbara Lindtner** will not be able to attend the PSATS Conference. Barbara cancelled the hotel reservation, so it is unlikely that accommodations will be available for someone else to attend. Additionally, no other Township attendee can vote on behalf of the Township, as Barbara was the certified voting delegate.

**Adjournment**

At 9:15 p.m., Jim Brownlow **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Barbara Lindtner **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Everitt  
Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting: April 27, 2010  
Approved: April 27, 2010