

Board of Supervisors

**MINUTES
 May 28, 2024**

IN-PERSON MEETING

Supervisors Present: Bill Ryker, Pete Kade (phone), Jim Hopkins, Dave Long and Lorna Yearwood.

Also present: Rich Pursell (Township Manager/Public Works Director), Lisa Gerhart (Secretary/Assistant Zoning Officer), Scott MacNair, Esq. (Township Solicitor) & Michael McDonald (Chief of Police).

Mr. Ryker called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Ryker advised the Board will meet in executive session after this meeting to discuss potential litigation & personnel. Mr. Ryker also mentioned the joint Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors meeting scheduled for June 5, 2024 at 6 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Ryker stated the financial report and balances are posted. Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Ms. Yearwood and unanimously approved to accept the financial report as presented.

Fund Balances as of April 30, 2024

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------|
| General Fund | \$ 1,724,922 | COVID Relief Fund | \$254,277 |
| - CD General Fund | - \$237,000 | | |
| Open Space Fund | \$ 103,334 | Liquid Fuels Fund | \$447,324 |
| - CD Open Space | -\$125,000 | - CD Liquid Fuels | - \$125,000 |
| Escrow Fund | \$ 147,597 | Street Light Fund | \$8,346 |
| Capital Reserve Fund | \$479,996 | Act 537 Escrow Fund | \$87,477 |
| - CD Capital Reserve | - \$237,000 | | |
| Dedicated EMS | \$11,494 | Dedicated Fire | \$180,956 |
| General Fund Reserve | \$321,923 | | |

Payment of Bills

(April 16, 2024 – May 15, 2024)

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| General Fund | \$489,064.34 | Open Space Fund | \$302,811.42 |
| Capital Reserve Fund | \$9,648.48 | Liquid Fuels Fund | \$0 |
| Escrows | \$2,272.38 | Street Light Fund | \$574.89 |
| PLGIT Credit Card | \$3,294.56 | Dedicated EMS Fund | \$0 |
| Dedicated Fire Fund | \$0 | | |

Motion made by Ms. Yearwood, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, and unanimously approved the payment of bills from April 16, 2024 - May 15, 2024.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Long and unanimously carried to approve the April 9, 2024, minutes as drafted. Motion by Ms. Yearwood, seconded by Mr. Hopkins and unanimously carried to

approve the April 24, 2024, minutes with suggested amendments. Motion made by Ms. Yearwood, seconded by Mr. Hopkins and unanimously carried to approve the May 14, 2024, minutes.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Adoption of Comprehensive Plan- Solicitor MacNair mentioned the Municipal Planning Code requirement to update/amend a Township's Comprehensive Plan every 10 years. The Bucks County Planning Commission, The Springfield Township Planning Commission, adjacent townships, Palisades School District and all required entities reviewed and provided feedback on the proposed final copy of the Comprehensive Plan. There were many public meetings, drafts and years of work put into this plan. Notice of adoption of the plan was advertised. Solicitor MacNair asked if there were any public comment at this time regarding the Proposed final draft of the Comprehensive Plan. Seeing none, the Board was then given the chance to discuss the topic further. Ms. Yearwood wanted to thank everyone involved for their hard work in this process. Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Ms. Yearwood and unanimously carried to approve **Resolution 2024-12** adopting the 2024 Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan.

Cooks Creek Watershed Conservation Plan - David Juall from Durham Township's EAC was present. Mr. Juall advised they are looking to update the Cooks Creek Conservation Plan that was previously adopted in 2002. They are looking to walk Cooks Creek and would need permission from landowners to do so. They are looking to walk it some time in the Fall. Ms. Elinich, Chair of Springfield Township's EAC, was present as well. She requested the support of the Board of Supervisors and help from the Township to come up with a list of homeowners along the creek. Ms. Yearwood said the intern, discussed in the next agenda item, would assist. Motion made by Mr. Hopkins to support the EAC with their Cooks Creek Walk, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously approved.

BCATO Internship Re-Discussion – Mr. Hopkins discussed the intern program and the draft paperwork done by Ms. Yearwood for Ms. Sydney Odle to participate as the intern. BCATO meets next on 6/12/24 and that would be when the intern is approved on their end. Mr. Long asked how many hours the intern would provide. Ms. Yearwood said 250 hours working out to \$20 an hour in compensation. Mr. Ryker said they put the intern information out to colleges in the Lehigh Valley and received no response. Mr. Hopkins advised he will recuse himself from the BCATO vote on 6/12/24. Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Long and approved 4-1 with Ms. Yearwood abstaining from voting due to her personal connection to the intern.

Map Grant – Resolution 2024-11 – Mr. Hopkins advised this resolution is a formality since it was already voted on to participate. This resolution is needed to indicate authorization and commitment from the Township. Michael Baker consultant, Ms. Samath McLean, will be present at the joint meeting on June 5, 2024, to answer any further questions on this. Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Ms. Yearwood and unanimously carried to approve **Resolution 2024-11** for the Pennsylvania Municipal Assistance Program.

Palisades High School STEM Outreach Club - The Palisades High School Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Outreach Club, known as "STEM", planted trees in Peppermint Park as part of a school project on April 29th. As a thank you, we have established a Certificate of

Appreciation to be awarded at the meeting. Agenda item tabled for another meeting as the teachers and students got tied up at their school award night and are unable to make this BOS meeting.

2024 Road Project Authorization to Bid - Over the next month or two we will be doing storm water improvements on Mountain Ave, Spring Hill Rd, Greenwood Dr, and Lakeview Dr with the grant we received from the Bucks County Low Volume Road Project. Once the grant is completed, it will be ideal to have the entire development milled as needed and then overlaid. Engineer Fulmer has put together a budgetary number of \$98,000.00 which is on the high side. We have put away \$100,000.00 for an overlay project this year as the Township tries to do this every other year. Manager Pursell recommended the Board to advertise and see what we get for pricing. If awarded, the project would take place in late summer or early fall. Motion made by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously approved to authorize the bidding for the overlaying of Mountain Ave, Spring Hill Rd, Greenwood Dr, and Lakeview Dr.

Certificates of Appreciation (EAC) – Manager Pursell advised there are two Certificates of Appreciation for outgoing EAC members – Ms. Lorna Yearwood and Ms. Susan Boyd. The current EAC chair, Ms. Arianne Elinich thanked Ms. Yearwood for all her hard work as previous EAC Chair and Ms. Boyd for her involvement as well.

Discussion on Planning Commission Meeting Topics - The Board was to come up with the top five topics and that's what would be presented to the PC at the joint meeting on June 5th. It was discussed that joint meetings with all the Commissions and Boards would be beneficial for moving forward and implementing the Comprehensive Plan. The Board agreed to focus on the Event Venue ordinance with the Planning Commission, then perhaps look at scenic overlays and changing acreage in certain zoning districts. Mr. Doncevic, Pleasant View Rd, said he is happy to see the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission finally talking to each other.

REPORTS / COMMENTS

Zoning – A report was received and is on file.

Police – A report was received and is on file. Chief McDonald advised DEA Nation Drug Take back day numbers are not in yet. He stated Officer Greco has been working as much as he can and is on this evening. Ms. Yearwood asked since hiring Officer Greco, if the Springfield Township Police coverage will increase, and Chief McDonald said yes, approximately 20% more coverage.

Public Works – A report was received and is on file. Manager Pursell advised he received half the money for Lakeview/Greenwood grant to purchase materials.

Solicitor – A report was received and is on file. Solicitor MacNair stated anything further will be discussed in the executive session after the meeting due to it being pending litigation.

Engineer – A report was received and is on file.

Palisades Regional Fire Department – Report received and on file.

Planning Commission – No report given.

Parks & Land Preservation Board – Mr. Frank Hollenbach, showed a presentation on the trees that were planted and few photos of the students STEM working. He advised the VoTech students are still working on the Kiosk for the Rail Trail and hope to have it done soon.

EAC – No report was given. Ms. Arianne Elinich, chair, was present and mentioned Member Kim Hirshman is at the awards ceremony for Palisades for the Hans Reiman Award that the EAC sponsors. Ms. Elinich said she is pleased Durham EAC and Springfield EAC will be able to work together on the Cooks Creek Watershed update plan.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Steve Doncevic, Pleasant View Road, stated he thinks if the Board of Supervisors meetings had an end time, he thinks more residents would attend.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Yearwood stated she continues to work with PennDOT on the litter enforcement corridor.

Mr. Ryker thanked the residents who attended the meeting.

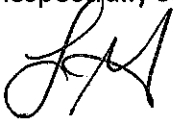
Mr. Pursell, Manager, advised the new Township website will be implemented soon.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ryker noted there will be an executive session held after this meeting to discuss litigation matters and personnel.

Motion by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Hopkins and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Gerhart
Secretary