

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP, BUCKS COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2005**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Rod Wieder with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Members present were Vice Chairman Pete Lamana, Chuck Halderman and Jim Brownlow. Rob Zisko was absent. Solicitor Jim McNamara was present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Rod Wieder announced the Supervisors held an Executive session on January 3, 2005 and January 10, 2005 relating to personnel issues.

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2004

Chuck Halderman requested the following additions to the minutes:

Evergreen Estates Discussion – Lots 2, 3, 4, 5 no stormwater control measures to the receiving basin.

If trees are removed from these lots excessive water runoff will adversely impact adjacent property owners.

The basin elevation is 331 feet and the road elevation is 333 feet, it is possible that if the water on the road is 6 inches to 12 inches deep water will back fill into the basin.

The emergency spillway is at an elevation of 334 feet and the roadway is at an elevation of 333 feet if more than 12 inches of rain fill the road there is a possibility that water will backfill into the basin over the emergency spillway.

Nothing in the Springfield Ordinance prohibits the future homeowners from cutting down trees in an agriculture zoning district. This will affect the basin design calculation because its design is based on 50% treed.

There is no mention in the plan that the excavation and grading may impact on the adjacent landowner's pond. Changing the existing stream that fills that pond is not mentioned.

Jim Brownlow moved to approve the minutes as amended by Chuck Halderman. Second by Pete Lamana. Vote was unanimous.

BILLS FOR APPROVAL

The Treasurer presented a bills list showing payments from the General fund of \$28,742.79 from the period December 14, 2004 to January 7, 2005. Chuck Halderman moved to approve the bills as presented. Second by Jim Brownlow. Vote was unanimous.

Pete Lamana credited the Township Treasurer with managing the township funds in a manner that has allowed the Board to keep the mileage at 10 for the past 8 years and maintaining a cash reserve.

Pete reassured the residents the Supervisors have no intention of getting rid of the police department.

REPORTS

Road Department and Code Enforcement Officer Reports are available at the rear of the meeting room.

Police Report – Officer-in-Charge Scott Huber reported for the December there was a total of 105 incidents; 14 traffic accidents involving 9 vehicles with 9 injuries and no fatalities. For the year 2004 there was a total of 1,776 incidents of which 124 were accidents with 68 injuries and no fatalities.

Scott stated the District Attorney's Office reached an agreement with the individuals responsible for the Knecht Bridge fire. They agreed to plead guilty.

Pete Lamana thanked Scott for the additional information he is providing for the Board each month. Pete referred to a graph prepared by Scott showing the overtime expenses for the past four years which range from \$11,000 to \$18,000 in 2003. The overtime expenses for the year 2004 were just over \$6,000. which is one third of the previous year.

Solicitor Report – Mr. McNamara has no report for this month.

PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

OLD BUSINESS

Historic Commission – Re-appoint Catherine Marek to a 5 year term. Chuck Halderman moved to appoint Catherine Marek to a five year term on the Historic Commission. Second by Jim Brownlow. Vote was unanimous.

Personnel Matter – Jim Brownlow stated Scott Huber was appointed Officer-In-Charge of the Springfield Township Police Department on October 6, 2006. For the past two and one half months he has demonstrated to the Board by his extra efforts his ability to handle a difficult situation. Jim moved to appoint Scott Huber Springfield Township Police Chief to begin an immediate probation period which will end on November 30, 2005. Second by Pete Lamana. Vote was unanimous.

Patrick Sessions Request for Waiver of Application fee and Maintenance Escrow for Peat Moss Septic System. Patrick and his wife live on Maple Road. They moved into the house in May and in the process of getting the septic system inspected, discovered it was deemed inadequate by the independent engineering company hired to inspect the system. After further investigation with soil scientists and the county health department, Patrick learned that if he was to replace the septic, it would require using an alternative system due to the fact the property is located in a shallow limiting zone. His research showed the current system was poorly designed and prone to pollute the ground water. He and his wife decided to replace the system.

Patrick feels his proactive stance in assessing the current system and willingness to find a better way to serve the ecology at his own expense was common sense and good citizenship, however, he discovered that by suggesting the superior alternative system, the Township would require additional funds.

The Supervisors requested the information be forwarded to the Township Engineer for comments. They can better discuss the situation after they receive input from his office. Chuck Halderman explained the requirement for a maintenance agreement is for the protection of the Township. Chuck suggested Patrick attend an Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Philip Margush regarding Hickon Road
Letter from Kenneth Michener regarding Stormwater runoff
Letter from Bucks County Health Department regarding well regulations

SUPERVISORS COMMENTS

Chuck Halderman received information about the John Eaken farm being accepted by the Pennsylvania National Historic Commission. The information has been forwarded to the National Park Service in Washington, D. C. This is the property that has been restored by Catherine Marek and her husband on Route 212 in Springtown.

Jim Brownlow moved to establish the starting salary for Chief Huber at \$61,000. per year. Second by Chuck Halderman. Vote was unanimous.

Also, Jim stated Scott worked as Officer in Charge from October 6, 2004 to January 12, 2005 with no additional stipend. Jim moved to pay \$1,500.00 to Scott Huber to compensate him for his additional duties as Officer-In-Charge. Second by Pete. Vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Pete Lamana moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Second by Jim Brownlow. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted

Barbara A. Smith
Secretary