

## Board of Supervisors

### MINUTES

May 26, 2015

**Supervisors Present:** Karen Bedics, David Long, Volker Oakey (via telephone), John Oehler and Robert Zisko  
**Also present:** Tim Fulmer, P.E. (Township Engineer), Scott MacNair, Esq. (Township Solicitor), Michael Brown (Township Manager) and Jason Wager (Secretary/Treasurer)

Chairperson Long called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Board held an executive session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel, real estate matters and litigation.

### Approval of Minutes

Mr. Zisko **moved** to approve the May 12 minutes as presented. Mr. Oehler **seconded**; the motion **passed** with Mr. Long abstaining for not being in attendance.

### Approval of Bills List

Ms. Bedics **moved** to approve the following bills paid from April 24 to May 21, 2015:

1. General Fund	\$132,759.91	5. Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 711.85
2. Liquid Fuels	\$ 2,145.48	6. Knecht's Bridge Fund	\$ 24.86
3. Open Space	\$ 21,306.71	7. Subdivision & Escrow	\$ 3,605.35
4. Street Light	\$ 551.08		

Mr. Zisko **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

### Reports

**Road Department (posted)** – The Board reviewed the 4/15 – 5/15/2015 Road Department report. The Road Department performed 466 hours of road maintenance, 106 hours of equipment maintenance, 12 hours of building maintenance, 4 hours of sign maintenance and 14 hours of paperwork during this period.

**Police Department (posted)** – The Board reviewed the May 2015 Police Department report. The department and State Police handled 190 calls for service, with 5 reportable crashes during April. The department drove 5,300 patrol miles during April.

**Treasurer** – Mr. Wager reported on the budget performance for the General Fund, Liquid Fuels Fund and Capital Reserve through May 15. He stated the following: EIT revenue up 4.4% from 2014 at \$322,023, Real Estate Transfer revenue up 76.9% at \$42,187, Real Estate/Delinquent Real Estate tax up 12.9% at 463,252 and Permit revenue was down 35% from 2014 at \$13,772. Total revenue for 2015 was \$1,163,371, which was up 9.2% from 2014 and \$5,949 over budget. Total expenses were \$780,553, which was up 13.9% from 2014 and \$26,103 under budget. The Township net income was a \$382,818 compared to \$379,711 in 2014 and \$23,754

over budget. Mr. Wager noted due to the improved revenue situation and budget planning for this year, the Township paid its 2015 MMO in May (normally sent in October) adding \$2,651 at a 6.5 rate of return to the Pension fund compared to \$48 in the General Fund Savings account during the same period, purchased a 6-month CD with unanticipated revenue and purchased a 12-month CD from the General Fund Reserve to net the Township \$808 in interest revenue.

**Township Manager/Zoning** – Mr. Brown conducted five Use & Occupancy resale inspections along with one variance application since his last report and continued his ordinance enforcement process work, which would be presented tonight. He noted that the sewage management program was initiated at the beginning of May and the Township has received approximately 200 pumping receipts.

### Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

**Bruce Strook**, 3175 Church Street, stated he attended the Silver Creek AA picnic and around 300 people attended compared to nearly 1,000 in previous years. He asked the community to help support them and noted his concern for safety throughout the Township.

### Planning Matters

**Springtown Knoll subdivision** – Mr. Fulmer gave an outline of the completed and open items for the Springtown Knoll Subdivision. He gave a listing of the recommended escrow amounts for the open items. Robin Reshetar, owner of the Springtown Knoll Subdivision, was present and agreed with the items presented.

Mr. Zisko **moved** to accept the end of the maintenance period for the Springtown Knoll Subdivision and release the maintenance guarantee except for \$12,000 representing the following items:

1. \$5,120 for NPDES permit renewal
2. \$2,500 for replacing basin outlet
3. \$1,450 for producing basin as-built
4. \$2,930 for contingency and inspections; and further,

That the applicant shall pay \$1,500 cash to the Township representing 5 uninstalled driveway lamp posts, which the Township shall in turn forward to the lot owners; and further, that the applicant shall pay \$11,286.28 cash to the Township representing outstanding legal and engineering fees. Ms. Bedics **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

### Governmental Matters

**PennDOT ECMS access agreement & Resolution 2015-07** – The Board reviewed the PennDOT ECMS agreement and Resolution confirming the signature authority. Mr. Brown confirmed Township Solicitor Terry Clemons had vetted both documents. Mr. Oehler **moved** to approve the ECMS online access agreement with PennDOT and further approve **Resolution 2015-07** authorizing the Chairperson to sign PennDOT project agreements. Mr. Zisko **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

**Agreement with PennDOT for Springfield Street bridge replacement** – Mr. Brown outlined the agreement and the concerns Mr. Clemons has with agreement, which may require passing an ordinance at some point, cost of moving utilities attached to the bridge and a potential cost to the Township because this is a railroad crossing. Mr. Brown noted that the PennDOT project representative said the agreement is standardized and hundreds of Business Partners have signed without modifications and his belief was that PennDOT would not

modify it. Mr. Brown also noted that this is a federally funded project and all costs will be paid using Federal money. Construction could begin in the summer of 2016. Mr. Oehler **moved** to approve the ECMS Business Partner agreement with PennDOT to allow the Commonwealth to act on the Township's behalf to replace the Springfield Street Bridge. Mr. Zisko **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

### **Old Business**

**Vacating Springhouse Lane ordinance** – Mr. Zisko summarized how the Board came to consider vacating Springhouse Lane. A landowner on the south end of the street asked to have right-of-way relocated to move the street in the future in conjunction with a conservation easement on his land. Mr. Zisko believed it would be too environmentally disruptive to physically move the road—even with guarantees it would be at no cost to the Township—and suggested the Board explore vacating instead. Nancy and Carol Singer, 2371 Township Road, Helen and Robert Bell, 3465 School Road, Rose Strong, 3849 Hunter Road, Jim Nilsen, 1636 Pleasant View Road, Tony Matzura, 1895 Route 212, Bruce Strock, 3175 Church Street, and Hans Reimann, 2915 Springtown Hill Road, all spoke against vacating Springhouse Lane for various reasons, such as an alternate route for Burnsonville or Knecht's Bridge Roads and its historical value to the Township. Mr. Long **moved** to authorize the Township Solicitor to prepare and advertise an ordinance vacating Springhouse Lane as a public street. There was no second and the motion was lost. The Board tabled the discussion for a later meeting. Mr. Long stated he would contact the landowner who made the request to see if relocating the road right-of-way was still a viable option.

### **New Business**

**Seal coat contract award** – Mr. Zisko **moved** to award the 2015 seal coating contract to Asphalt Maintenance Solutions in the amount of \$159,123/\$2.36 per square yard, and authorize the Township staff to execute the appropriate documents. Ms. Bedics **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Mr. Oehler **moved** to authorize the replacement of the Funks Mill Road guide rail costing approximately \$6,500, utilizing the Springfield Bridge maintenance project budget line item as a cost offset. Mr. Zisko **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

**Fire Police requests** – Mr. Long **moved** to authorize the Springtown Volunteer Fire Company Fire Police to assist Quakertown Borough (4<sup>th</sup> of July Community Day), Milford Township (Milford Township Volunteer Fire Company Carnival) and Perkasie Borough (Perkasie Fire Company Carnival). Mr. Oehler **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

**Ordinance Enforcement process** – Mr. Brown presented an overview of the Township's ordinance enforcement scope, procedures for various types of issues, possible enforcement outcomes, and key decision points in the process so the Board can delegate authority in accordance with its policies. He also listed common complaints from citizens and potential enforcement priorities by the Board. The Board tabled further discussion to the next meeting.

**Environmental Assessment authorization** – Mr. Oehler **moved** to authorize a Phase 1 environmental assessment for the property located at 1776 Richlandtown Pike (TMP #'s 42-008-062 and 42-008-063), and depending on the result of the Phase I, authorized the Township Manager to commence a Phase II. Mr. Zisko **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

### Correspondence

Mr. Long gave notice of an application to DEP by Robert Huntzinger for use of bio-solids on his property, Borough of Coopersburg approval of Springfield Street detour, an email from Lawrence Kennedy supporting the anti-pipeline resolution and a letter from Nancy Singer opposing vacating Springhouse Lane.

### Public Comment

**Robert Bell**, 3465 School Road, asked if a better speaker system for the meetings could be obtained.

**Jim Nilsen**, 1636 Pleasant View Road, asked for clarification of the environmental assessment authorization not listed on the agenda.

**Bruce Strook**, 3175 Church Street, suggested reviewing and fine-tuning the Zoning Ordinance.

**Hans Reimann**, 2915 Springtown Hill Road, asked if the EAC could be involved in the review of the bio-solid use for the Huntzinger property and the environmental assessment on Richlandtown Pike. Mr. Brown confirmed DEP is reviewing the bio-solid permit application, and the Township is contracting with an environmental firm to conduct the Phase I and Phase II.

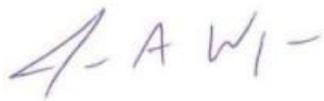
### Supervisor Comments

There were no Supervisor comments.

### Adjournment

At 9:40 p.m., Mr. Oehler **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Zisko **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason A. Wager  
Township Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting: June 23, 2015

Approved: June 23, 2015