

Springfield Township, Bucks County
Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

April 23, 2019

Supervisors Present: Karen Bedics, David Long, Tony Matzura, Jim Nilsen and Rob Zisko.

Also present: Vicki Kushto (solicitor), Michael Brown (Township Manager), Debra Godshall (Treasurer), and Mike McDonald (police chief). Chairperson Long called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m and announced the Board met in executive session to discuss personnel and a real estate matter.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Ms. Bedics, seconded by Mr. Nilsen, to approve the March 26, 2019 regular meeting minutes after correcting that Mr. Zisko was absent. In favor—Bedics, Long, Matzura, Nilsen. Abstain—Zisko (absence). Motion carries.

Bills (March 21-April 17, 2019)

General Fund	\$47,498.72	Open Space Fund	\$77.50
Capital Reserve Fund	\$312.00	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$8,930.15
Escrows	\$969.70	Street Light Fund	\$0

Motion by Karen Bedics, seconded by Tony Matzura, to pay the bills list. All in favor. Motion carries.

Reports

Road hours March 12, 2019-April 11, 2019):

Road Maintenance	507 Hours	Equipment Maintenance	238 hours
Building Maintenance	10 Hours	Sign Maintenance	12 hours
Winter Maintenance	0 Hours	Park Maintenance	2 hours
Admin	18 Hours	Roadside Mowing	0 hours

Police Department—Chief McDonald reported 198 calls for service in March, 39 handled by PSP.

Treasurer Fund Balances as of April 17, 2019:

General Fund	\$324,843.35	Liquid Fuels	\$444,736.92
Open Space	\$853,531.93	Street Light	\$2344.32
Escrow	\$568,527.88	Special Fees	\$382.62
Capital Reserve	\$506,393.50	Sewer Maint Escrow	\$84,649.12

Business

Variance application TMP 42-9-180 (2568 Richlandtown Pike)—The owner has a zoning hearing scheduled to request a variance for permission to build a pole barn within the side yard setback. The lot is non-conforming due to size. The side yard setback for a building as proposed is 30 feet.

Motion by Karen Bedics, seconded by Tony Matzura, to take no position on the variance application of Peter Weaver, TMP 42-9-180, to erect a detached garage within 11'7" of the side lot line. All in favor. Motion carries.

Website overhaul—Motion by Dave Long, seconded by Rob Zisko, to accept the proposal from 110 Front dated March 27, 2019 to overhaul the Township’s website, with a cap of \$1000 for maintenance for the first quarter after the design is complete and online. All in favor. Motion carries.

Police Vehicle replacement—The Chief explained that if the Township were going to have a replacement vehicle at the start of 2020 he’d have to place the order by mid-May before production years changed. He plans to order an identical vehicle to the last two replacement vehicles. The Chief’s current vehicle will be sent to Zoning for use when the replacement is ready.

Motion by Rob Zisko, seconded by Dave Long, to authorize purchase of a 2019 Ford F150 police vehicle per the estimate of \$49,651 in the Chief’s memo dated 4/17/2019 . Motion by Karen Bedics, seconded by Rob Zisko, to amend the motion to prohibit spending money on the replacement vehicle in 2019. All in favor of the amendment. Motion carries. In favor—Bedics, Long, Nilsen, Zisko. Abstain—Matzura (conflict). Motion carries.

Technical Assistance Grant for pipeline safety—The Board discussed whether it should apply for a federal grant to fund a consultant to analyze the Township’s vulnerabilities in the event of a pipeline rupture. Ms. Bedics advocated for the application as a means of increasing EMS providers training and knowledge of local conditions. Mr. Brown reported he’d gotten 2 estimates from consultants who were subject matter experts and the price ranged from \$20,000 to \$75,000.

Motion by Karen Bedics, seconded by Jim Nilsen, to apply for a grant. In favor—Bedics, Long, Nilsen. Opposed—Matzura, Zisko. Motion carries.

Buildings and grounds capital plan—The Board discussed various tasks proposed for long term improvements to the Township’s buildings and grounds.

Project Name	Scope	Est Cost	Alt Est Cost	Outcome
Peak roof on Admin area	Construct gable roof over admin area	\$50,000	Replace in kind for \$15,000	Replace roof in kind
Install Solar PV	Generate 100% of Twp electricity demand	\$80,000	+\$150/month on elec bill	Hold for School District
Replace HVAC with ductless mini-split systems (See next page)	Reduce fuel oil consumption and increase electricity demand	\$40,000	\$20,000	Get updated estimates
Window replacement	Replace windows with open/close	\$17,000		Do in 2019
Sidewalk repairs	Complete replacement	\$3,500	\$6,100	Do in 2019
Landscaping overhaul	Replace turf grass w/ groundcover	\$2,500		Don't do
Landscaping overhaul	Shade parking areas	\$3,750		Do in 2019

Stucco repair & rehab	Fix cracks in exterior walls & repaint	\$14,500		Do in 2019
Parking lot lighting	Replace with LED lighting that's more efficient	\$0		Do in 2019
Power pole	Move utility pole in front of garage from access ways	\$2,500		Do in 2019
Meeting room	U shaped table	\$2,800		Defer
Meeting room	Large screen TV for audience display	\$1,500	Previously Approved	Do in 2019
Meeting room	Monitors & casting devices for meeting room table	\$2,000		Defer
Meeting room	carpet	\$2,500	Previously Approved	Do once cabinets reduced
Meeting room	New head table chairs			Do in 2019
Declutter Admin	Digitize records; remove cabinetry; general declutter			Ongoing
PD floor--Remove carpet and refloor with laminate	Asbestos tile needs sealed			Get estimate
Repaint PD				After floor project done
Bars over entrance door window in PD	Prevent hostile entry			Do in 2019
Test air quality in PD	Ensure smell in PD isn't hazardous			Do in 2019
Declutter garage	Remove road equipment from PD garage bay			Ongoing

Landscaping and Lawn Service quotes—The Board reviewed a revised quote specifications and bid form. It amended the mowing schedule to be done every 7 days and added a provision that allows the Township to cancel a scheduled mowing with sufficient notice when weather conditions warrant it.

The Board also discussed the possibility of simply hiring a seasonal employee to do all the mowing. This would also require purchasing an upgraded turf grass mower.

Motion by Dave Long, seconded by Jim Nilsen, to authorize advertisement of the Request for Quotes for landscaping and lawn services. All in favor. Motion carries.

E27 Firearms Target Range use—The Bucks County Planning Commission identified that this use was listed as “Reserved” during its last review of the Township’s zoning provisions. The Township Planning Commission worked on ordinance provisions and approved a draft for the Board’s consideration in January. The version is number 5, dated November 12, 2018.

The consensus of the Board was to get input from the Township Solicitor on the proposal, and to broaden the definition of accessory uses to allow for more activity to be considered a residential accessory use. The Board desires to strike a balance between low frequency target shooting (including by persons other than just the property owner), and high frequency target shooting.

Supervisor comments: Mr. Nilsen wants the staff to keep Quickbooks upgraded to the most recent version consistently. Ms. Bedics inquired about the request to PennDot for a structural study of Richlandtown Pike. Mr. Long inquired about the status of the transfer of the PPL property on Hickon Road to the Township.

Meeting adjourned at 9:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Brown
Township Manager