

Springfield Township, Bucks County  
Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

January 22, 2019

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

**Also present:** Scott MacNair (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 prior to the meeting to interview volunteers and real estate matters.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Mr. Zisko, seconded by Ms. Bedics, to approve the January 8, 2019 reorganization meeting minutes. All in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Ms. Bedics, seconded by Mr. Nilsen, to approve the January 8, 2019 regular meeting minutes. All in favor. Motion carries.

**Bills (December 7, 2018-January 16, 2019)**

General Fund	\$74,052.06	Open Space Fund	\$538.75
Capital Reserve Fund	\$23,111.50	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$0
Escrows	\$2,132.45	Street Light Fund	\$526.58

Motion by Rob Zisko, seconded by Jim Nilsen, to pay the bills list. All in favor. Motion carries.

**Reports**

Road hours (November 29, 2018-January 8, 2019):

Road Maintenance	283 Hours	Equipment Maintenance	201 hours
Building Maintenance	83 Hours	Sign Maintenance	4 hours
Winter Maintenance	92 Hours	Park Maintenance	25 hours
Admin	31 Hours	Roadside Mowing	0 hours

Police Department—Chief McDonald reported 216 calls for service in December, 40 handled by PSP.

Treasurer Fund Balances as of January 16, 2019:

General Fund	\$405,417.56	Liquid Fuels	\$161,058.68
Open Space	\$755,895.61	Street Light	\$4,225.42
Escrow	\$582,893.59	Special Fees	\$380.41
Capital Reserve	\$532,818.16	Sewer Maint Escrow	\$84,546.75

**Public Comment**

Chief Chris Trauger, Springtown Volunteer Fire Company, provided the Board reports of the state wide legislative study that confirms the 50 year trend for fewer volunteers for fire and EMS service continues. He also said the fire company was involved with 196 calls for service in 2018.

### **Business**

**Tolson/Nationwide REO Sub 1B, LLC lot line adjustment**—The applicant was represented by Dave Zboray, PE. Motion by Dave Long, seconded by Jim Nilsen, to grant waivers per the applicant's letter dated December 11, 2018, and further to approve the plan drawn by Arthur A Swallow Associates dated April 3, 2018, last revised December 12, 2018 under the condition the applicant shall comply with the outstanding items contained in the Township Engineer's review letter dated December 18, 2018

The applicant agreed to the condition. All in favor. Motion carries.

**Springtown Hill Road**—The Board discussed the traffic study dated January 3, 2019 performed by the Township Engineer. Over 50% of the street's households requested the road become a one-way eastbound. The engineer reported .5% of eastbound traffic and .9% of westbound traffic exceeded enforcement limits. He suggested an alternative to making the street one-way was to install two speed tables at a cost of \$10,000-\$12,000.

Megan Trauger, Pat Bowersock Carrie Rice, Springtown Hill Road, all supported the concept of making the street one-way. Brett & Joanne Bonnville, Springtown Hill Road, opined that traffic volume and not traffic speed was their biggest concern.

The Board asked for the costs of sign installation if the road were made one-way, and for the Township Engineer to verify the width of the road and attend the next meeting. No action taken.

**Resolution 2019-01; Hans O. Reimann Memorial Scholarship Fund**—The Board discussed the EAC's request to create a \$1000 annual scholarship for a senior of Palisades High School taking up environmentally related studies. The EAC plans to fund the scholarship through its fund raising activities.

The Board directed the resolution be changed to make the scholarship available even if the EAC's fundraising fell short, until such time as a future Board might rescind it. Mr. Brown will place the matter on the February 12<sup>th</sup> agenda.

**Spotted Lanternfly presentation**—Lorna Yearwood, Chair of the EAC, provided the Board information on Spotted Lanternfly. The main policy recommendation was for the Township to get someone certified to hold a permit for the Township's vehicles and to train other employees on the issue.

**Adelphia Gateway FERC application**—The Board discussed the EAC's recommendations for Township comments about the Adelphia pipeline application. The Board accepted comments about the karst monitoring plan, integrity management plan and requesting an environmental impact study instead of an environmental assessment. Mr. MacNair will draft comments and email them to the Board before sending to FERC.

**Financial capacity**—Mr. Brown gave a presentation to the Board about the status of its encumbered and unencumbered cash reserves. The Township has money banked that is mainly earmarked for future spending and/or equipment replacement. Mr. Brown stated there is about \$270,000 in unencumbered money available for projects.

**Solar feasibility study**—Mr. Brown provided the Board a proposal from ProtoGen of Quakertown to study solar feasibility for the municipal building and Springtown Elementary School. The School District Facilities Committee is taking up the question of splitting the \$2700 cost with the Township on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Patricia Jamann, Old Bethlehem Road, supported the idea.

Motion by Dave Long, seconded by Jim Nilsen, to approve the consulting contract with ProtoGen dated December 21, 2018, irrespective of whether the School District agreed to cost share. All in favor. Motion carries.

The Board asked the cost to be paid from the Special Fees Fund.

**Ordinance 192; Historic Commission**—Mr. Brown presented version 2 dated 1/16/2019 of the ordinance to formally establish the Commission’s duties. Motion by Dave Long, seconded by Karen Bedics, to authorize Ordinance 192 for public hearing as written. All in favor. Motion carries.

**Supervisor comments:**

Mr. Matzura thanked emergency services for responding promptly to the traffic incident in Pleasant Valley that day.

Ms. Bedics said the Tax Collector had reduced the dollar amount of liens filed by calling non-paying taxpayers in December.

Mr. Zisko asked to keep the meetings shorter and money spent responding to the Adelpia Gateway project was a waste.

Meeting adjourned at 10:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Brown  
Township Manager