

Board of Supervisors

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
April 19, 2022**

IN-PERSON MEETING - VIRTUAL OPTION AVAILABLE

Supervisors Present: Jim Hopkins, Tony Matzura, Jim Nilsen (virtual), Raymond Kade and Bill Ryker.

Also present: Jason Wager (Township Manager) and Colleen Pursell (Secretary / Treasurer), Michael McDonald (Chief of Police) and Scott MacNair, Esq. (Township Solicitor).

Mr. Hopkins called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No public comment was given.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Open Space Refinancing Discussion – Jamie Schlesinger and Francesca Neuman of PFM Financial Advisors presented the Board with options for refinancing the Open Space GO Bond.

Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Nilsen and unanimously carried authorizing PFM Financial Advisors to move forward with refinancing the Open Space GO Bond with a cash contribution not to exceed \$500,000 and further, authorize the Township Manager to sign the Engagement Letter.

David Long, 3260 Drifting Drive, asked about the total amount of money that the Township is refinancing and when does the savings begin.

Employee Health Benefits Discussion – Steve Fallon and Bob Solarz of Delaware Valley Health Trust (DVHT) provided the Board with an overview of their organization and health insurance benefits.

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried approving Delaware Valley Health Trust as the provider of employee health insurance benefits beginning January 1, 2023 and further, authorize the Township Manager to sign all associated documents.

Historical Society Schoolhouse Tour – Frank Hollenbach gave a presentation on the upcoming Historical Society Schoolhouse Tour scheduled for June 11, 2022.

Forestry Ordinance Hearing – Mr. MacNair provided the Board with a history of the ordinance. The draft ordinance was reviewed by the Bucks County Planning Commission and Springfield Township Planning Commission.

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Matzura and unanimously carried adopting Ordinance 2022-200 Amending the Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance Adopted October 2, 2007, by Amending the A-3 Forestry Use Provisions.

Township Building Phones Discussion – Mr. Wager presented the Board with a quote received from Systems Net for the installation of a new phone system at the municipal building.

Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Matzura and unanimously carried authorizing the sale of the Avaya phone system on Municibid with a reserve amount of \$3,500 and further, request that the phone system discussion be added to the next agenda.

Township Meeting Room Remodeling Discussion – Mr. Wager presented the Board with draft floor plans to remodel the administrative area / meeting room prepared by Joel Petty Architecture. The cost is estimated at approximately \$150,000. The Board’s consensus was to have the architect provide the Township with a quote for the cost to prepare bidding documents for the construction.

Donation Acceptance for Police – Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried acknowledging the donation of \$2,500 from the Rosses to use as the police see fit.

Request for Fire Police – Palisades School District – Motion by Mr. Matzura, seconded by Mr. Ryker and unanimously carried authorizing the use of Springtown Fire Company Fire Police at the Palisades Community 5k Fundraiser on Saturday, May 14, 2022.

1st Quarter 2022 Budget Review - Mr. Wager gave a power point presentation on the 1st Quarter of 2022 budget performance. The presentation included a detail breakdown of the General Fund revenue/expenses and balances for all other funds. He noted that it is difficult to access the budget performance this early in the year, as many expenses are not incurred in the 1st quarter. Additionally, the presentation included highlights of projects/capital purchases for each department.

Emergency Services / Finance Discussion - Mr. Wager gave a power point presentation on the Funding of Emergency Services. The presentation included data collected from Springfield Township, Bedminster Township, Bridgeton Township, Durham Township, East Rockhill Township, Haycock Township, Lower Saucon Township, Milford Township, Nockamixon Township, Richland Township, Tinicum Township, Upper Saucon Township, West Rockhill Township, and Williams Township, Wrightstown Township.

The presentation focused on how did we get here, current fire/ambulance funding, 5 year forecast of emergency services funding, comparisons between local Township funding and Springfield Township including demographics, budgets – income and revenue and options for the Township including per capita tax and dedicated emergency services tax.

OTHER BOARD COMMENTS

No comment was given.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Trauger, 3069 Springtown Road, asked about Open Space funds. He also commented that the Springtown Fire Company will be receiving their new tanker soon.

Frank Hollenbach, 600 Rocky Valley Road, requested a copy of the refinance paperwork for the Parks and Land Preservation Board.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Hopkins thanked Mr. Wager for putting together the presentations. He also advised that the BCATO Director Meeting is tomorrow.

Mr. Nilsen requested an update on the status of the loose boards on the Rail Trail boardwalk.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Kade, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen M. Pursell
Secretary / Treasurer