

**Board of Supervisors**

**MINUTES**

**August 23, 2022**

**IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL MEETING**

**Supervisors Present:** Jim Hopkins, Tony Matzura, James Nilsen, Raymond Kade and Bill Ryker.

**Also present:** Jason Wager (Township Manager), Lisa Gerhart (Secretary), Michael McDonald (Chief of Police), and Scott MacNair, Esq. (Township Solicitor).

Mr. Hopkins called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

No public comment was given.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Wager discussed the financials. The consensus of the Board was to accept the report as presented.

Fund Balances as of July 31, 2022

General Fund	\$ 549,192	COVID Relief Fund	\$233,971
Open Space Fund	\$ 1,106,802	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$479,698
Escrow Fund	\$ 480,068	Street Light Fund	\$7,696
Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 690,702	Act 537 Escrow Fund	\$85,761

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

(July 16, 2022 – August 19, 2022)

General Fund	\$47,780.25	Open Space Fund	\$18.50
Capital Reserve Fund	\$12,020.53	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$7,204.14
Escrows	\$1,773.49	Street Light Fund	\$536.61

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Matzura and unanimously carried approving payment of bills from July 16, 2022 – August 19, 2022.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Hopkins and unanimously carried approving the July 12, 2022 & July 26, 2022, minutes, as presented.

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

**Cooks Creek Watershed Association Poster/Plaque**

Mr. Scott Douglas, Cooks Creek Watershed Association President, and Rebecca Hayden, Watershed Coalition of the Lehigh Valley, presented the Cooks Creek Watershed poster gifted to the residents of Springfield Township. The poster will be on display in the Township meeting room. The Board thanked them for their support and gift.

**FY2023 Budget Request/Annual Update**

**1. Emergency Services**

- **Upper Saucon Ambulance Corp**

Mr. Josh Schnalzer, Executive Director, spoke about their organization receiving 2400 calls per year and 10% of those are in Springfield Township. He discussed the challenges they have are staffing issues and financial issues. He requested any financial support the Board can give to stay competitive. He submitted their Operations/Financial Projects Report 2022 for the board to review.

- **Upper Bucks Regional EMS**

Mr. Ed Dougherty, President, spoke about all their organization does for Springfield Township. They presented a presentation showing their statistics and funding. They discussed only having 14% response rate to their membership dues. It was also discussed how some insurance reimbursement goes to the resident and not turned over to the ambulance cost.

- **Richland Township Fire & Rescue**

Mr. Bob Heitz, Vice President, Mr. Pete Graziano, President, and Mr. Mike Graziano, Chief, were present to discuss their organization. They discussed \$113,117.48 money lost due to covid. They discussed their station had recover from two floods causing damage to their station. They are in need of replacing their 27-year-old rescue truck which will cost \$740,000. A request for funding report was submitted for 2023 and 2024 for the Board's review.

- **Springtown VFC & Palisades Regional Fire & Rescue**

Mr. Todd Myers, President, and Mr. Bill Schick, Chief, were present. Mr. Meyers said he sent over their five-year plan to Mr. Wager earlier today. The board can take their time to look over the specifics and if there are any follow up questions to reach out to him. They request 70% of the proposed 3 mills dedicated tax.

Mr. Kade reminded all entities that the township only has so much revenue from EIT and Property Taxes. He said a large amount of revenue does already go to emergency services. He discussed how important it is for the Township not to go bankrupt.

## **2. Township ABC's**

- **Springtown Water Authority**

Mr. Don Kucher, Chairman, was present. He discussed their need for storing records. They advised they are not asking for money from the board, just ideally storage space.

- **Planning Commission**

Ms. Dawn Nicholson, Chairwoman, was present via Zoom. She provided a 2021 recap. The Comprehensive plan was discussed and where it is in the process. There will be special meeting in the future to discuss re-zoning and how to bring more business and revenue to the township. Ms. Nicholson stated there is still a vacant position on the board.

- **Parks & Land Preservation Board**

Mr. Frank Hollenbach, Chairman, gave a recap of the work they did over the past year. He thanked the Road crew for all their assistance with projects.

- **Environmental Advisory Council**

Ms. Lorna Yearwood, Chairwoman, was present to give an update on their work the past year. She discussed the cleanups they have completed. She discussed the Reimann Scholarship. November will be their next roadside cleanup and in October is the electronic recycling event.

- **Historic Commission**

No one was present, however Mr. Wager read an update submitted by Mr. Ken Joire' of the Historic Commission. The Historic Commission made a request of the board for \$500 for research consultants and \$500 for historic resources survey start up items.

**2023 Pension MMO's Approval**

Mr. Wager discussed the yearly requirement. He will sign as the pension administrator. Motion by Mr. Matzura, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried accepting the 2023 MMO's as presented by the Township Manager and authorize the Manager as Pension Administrator to sign the MMO's for the Police Pension Plan, Non-Uniform Pension Plan and Non-Uniform Defined Contribution Plan.

**Police Donation Resolution/Acceptance**

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Ryker and unanimously carried acknowledging the donation of \$50 from Robert Hosier and \$200 from Charles Engle & Francine Cavanagh to use for the benefit of the police officers.

**2022-2023 Consortium Salt bid Resolution/Acceptance**

Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried adopting **Resolution 2022-09** accepting the 2022 Rock Salt Bid through the Bucks County Consortium, awarding Morton Salt, Inc. for the 2022-2023 season and further authorize the Township manager to sign all paperwork necessary to complete the agreement.

**Zoning Ordinance Amendment Discussion**

1. **Alternative Energy** – The ordinance was tabled for the September meeting.
2. **Warehouse Distribution Center** - The ordinance was tabled for the September meeting.

**Resolution of Support to BCATO**

Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Nilsen and unanimously carried adopting **Resolution 2022-11** opposing to the sale of Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority's assets to Aqua, Pennsylvania and implores BCWA to abandon negotiations with Aqua and to continue to operate as independent, non-profit agency.

**Police Cradlepoint Updated Quote**

This matter was tabled for a future meeting. Mr. Nilsen advised he would talk to Chief McDonald about a possible other company to get another quote from.

**Job Description Resolutions**

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Matzura and unanimously carried adopting **Resolutions 2022- 12** through **2022-18** respectfully regarding job descriptions for the positions of Emergency Management Coordinator, Chief of Police, Treasurer, Secretary/Permit Coordinator, Public Works Director, Public Works Equipment Operator/Laborer, and Part-Time Public Works Equipment Operator/Laborer.

**Road Department Building Garage Exhaust Quote**

Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Nilsen and unanimously carried accepting the exhaust quote for the Road Department exhaust fan and authorizing Mr. Pursell, Public Works Director, to proceed with the

project so long as the project does not exceed \$10,000. Department to ensure they have heat for the winter.

#### **REPORTS / COMMENTS**

**Zoning** – A report was received and is on file.

**Police** – A report was received and is on file.

**Road** – A report was received and is on file.

**Solicitor** – A report was received.

**Engineer** – A report was received and is on file.

**Springtown Fire Company Report** – A report was received and is on file.

#### **OTHER BOARD COMMENTS**

**Planning Commission** – No report was given.

**Parks & Land Preservation Board** – No report was given.

**EAC** – No report was given.

**Historic Commission** – No report was given.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Board Correspondence was accepted as presented.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment was given.

#### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

The budget meeting on September 21, 2022, was discussed as the public and emergency services can see the township revenue numbers and the challenge of balancing the Township budget.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Kade, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Gerhart  
Secretary