

Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

DECEMBER 27, 2022

IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL MEETING

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

Also present: Rich Pursell (Township Manager/Public Works Director), 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.

Mr. Hopkins advised there was an executive session held prior to the meeting to discuss real estate.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment given.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

Fund Balances as of November 30, 2022

General Fund	\$ 536,442	COVID Relief Fund	\$236,320
- CD General Fund	- \$243,000		
Open Space Fund	\$ 401,873	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$245,269
Escrow Fund	\$ 46,851	Street Light Fund	\$4,657
Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 358,510	Act 537 Escrow Fund	\$85,951

PAYMENT OF BILLS

(November 19, 2022 – December 22, 2022)

General Fund	\$128,894	Open Space Fund	\$273,899
Capital Reserve Fund	\$7,921	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$5,867
Escrows	\$2,376	Street Light Fund	\$365

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried approving payment of bills from November 19, 2022 – December 22, 2022.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Matzura, seconded by Mr. Ryker and unanimously carried approving the November 15, 2022, November 22, 2022, minutes, as presented.

BUSINESS ITEMS

2023 Tax Levy Resolution 2022-23 – Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried by the Board adopting **Resolution 2022-23** for the Tax Levy in Springfield Township Bucks County to be set at 14 mills for real estate in 2023.

2023 Fire/EMS Tax Resolution 2022-24 – Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Ryker and unanimously carried by the Board adopting **Resolution 2022-24** establishing rates of taxation upon all real property for the Fire and Ambulance services supporting the Township for Fiscal year 2023. An annual tax of 2.5 mills to be dedicated for Fire Protection Services and .5 mills to be dedicated for Ambulance Services.

Adoption of 2023 Budget – Motion made Mr. Matzura, seconded by Mr. Kade, and unanimously carried by the Board approving **Resolution 2022-25** adopting 2023 Fiscal Budget as advertised.

Bruce Fritchman Citation – Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Kade, and unanimously carried by the Board adopting **Resolution 2022-26**, a citation in memorial of Bruce D. Fritchman in grateful appreciation for his volunteer work in Springfield Township Bucks County.

Tat Moyer Citation – Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Ryker, and unanimously carried by the Board adopting **Resolution 2022-27**, a citation in memorial of Theodora Albree Moyer in grateful appreciation for her years in service in education and developing Springfield Township youth.

Police Donation Acceptance – Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Hopkins and unanimously carried authorizing Chief of Police to send acknowledgement for the donation.

Zoning Hearing Board Location Change – It was discussed that future meetings can be moved to a different venue should the situation warrant if attendance is expected to exceed Township Building meeting room occupancy.

RFP Traffic Engineering Consultant – Wynn Associates Inc. on behalf of Springfield Township Bucks County is requesting proposals to provide traffic engineering consulting services concerning traffic associated with the existing signalized intersection of Route 309 and Springfield Street.

Rt.309 Traffic Light – Manager received an email from PennDOT’s Traffic Signals Supervisor on December 19, 2022. They are recommending extending the yellow light on Rt 309 from 4 seconds to 6 seconds. PennDOT will draft up the change and send it to the Township to sign off on.

PSATS Conference – The annual PSATS Conference will be April 23rd to April 26th 2023 at Hershey Lodge. Registration opens on January 10, 2023. The manager is looking to find out which supervisors would like to attend.

REPORTS / COMMENTS

Zoning – A report was received and is on file.

Police – A report was received and is on file. Chief McDonald advised the annual Shop With A Cop event was very successful with 270 kids who shopped with 75 cops.

Public Works – A report was received and is on file.

Solicitor – A report was received and is on file.

Engineer – A report was received and is on file.

Planning Commission – No report was given.

Parks & Land Preservation Board – No report was given. Mr. Frank Hollenbach, of Rocky Valley Road, mentioned there is discussion with the County to extend the Rail Trail Funding and extend the trail.

EAC – No report was given.

Historic Commission – No report was given.

CORRESPONDENCE

Board Correspondence was accepted as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Pete Graziano of Shelly Fire company, advised the township can hold any events at their firehall without cost to the township besides Tuesday evenings when there is Bingo.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Ryker said the board does not take raising taxes lightly. He said the board needed to raise taxes by 3 mills out of necessity. He realizes our residents need the fire and EMS resources and he commends them for working together. Mr. Ryker also discussed the report Palisades School District released that shows our district as more residents in school than most and that 15% of our township has kids in Palisades school district.

Mr. Hopkins wanted to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Nilsen advised when the board went on a ride with the previous manager and Public Works Director they passed the abandoned cemetery and how that became the Township's responsibility. Mr. Nilsen wanted to follow up and make sure a new flag was ordered to replace the one there that was tattered. Manager Pursell advised he would order one tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Ryker, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Gerhart
Secretary