

Board of Supervisors

**MINUTES
 July 25, 2023**

IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL MEETING

Supervisors Present: Anthony Matzura, Pete Kade, James Nilsen, Bill Ryker and Jim Hopkins.

Also present: Rich Pursell (Township Manager/Public Works Director), Lisa Gerhart (Secretary), Scott MacNair, Esq. (Township Solicitor) & Michael McDonald (Chief of Police).

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no comment on non-agenda items.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Matzura stated the financial report and balances are posted.

Fund Balances as of June 30, 2023

General Fund	\$ 1,123,682	COVID Relief Fund	\$443,414
- CD General Fund	- \$237,000		
Open Space Fund	\$ 436,449	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$404,409
- CD Open Space	-\$125,000	- CD Liquid Fuels	- \$125,000
Escrow Fund	\$ 491,793	Street Light Fund	\$7,793
Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 328,222	Act 537 Escrow Fund	\$86,472
- CD Capital Reserve	-\$237,000		
Dedicated EMS	\$28,394	Dedicated Fire	\$192,095

PAYMENT OF BILLS

(June 16, 2023 – July 15, 2023)

General Fund	\$61,908.59	Open Space Fund	\$0
Capital Reserve Fund	\$3,191.90	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$0
Escrows	\$1,756.82	Street Light Fund	\$743.05
PLGIT Credit Card	\$765.93	Dedicated EMS Fund	\$10,000
Dedicated Fire Fund	\$0		

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Kade, and unanimously agreed to accept financial report as presented. Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Ryker and unanimously approving the payment of bills from June 16 – July 15, 2023.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Ryker and unanimously carried approving the June 13, 2023, minutes once Secretary Gerhart fixes a typo. Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Nilsen approving the amended June 27, 2023 minutes with a wording change by Mr. Matzura.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Hans Reimann Scholarship Award Recipient – Ms. Lorna Yearwood, EAC Chair, stated Ms. Sierra Wright was this year's winner of the award. A recorded video thank-you by Ms. Wright was played. Mr. Matzura congratulated Ms. Wright and thanked her for her hard work.

CBBC Annual Covered Bridge Bike Ride – Notice and permission for the 42nd Annual Covered Bridge Ride scheduled for October 8, 2023. The Board of Supervisors blessed the event.

Discussion on Letter of Support to Bucks County Commissioners - Warwick Township has reached out to see if Springfield Township would be interested in supporting and signing a letter to the Bucks County Commissioners to consider offering the Act 91 Fire property tax rebate to volunteer firefighters. Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously approved to sign the suggested letter of support.

Ordinance 2023-204 Truck Restrictions – **Ordinance 2023-204** was advertised in The Intel on July 11, 2023, with proof of publication. **Ordinance 2023-204** restricts truck traffic on Drifting Drive and Springtown Hill for trucks over 22 feet in length making violations and enforcement actions possible. This was the Public Hearing portion of the ordinance process with a chance for public comment. Mr. Dave Long, Drifting Drive, questioned the length of the trucks being restricted. It was mentioned local delivery is permitted. Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously approved to adopt **Ordinance 2023-204** Authorizing the Board of Supervisors to Prohibit Commercial Truck Traffic which exceeds twenty-two (22) feet in length from using any portion of Drifting Drive and Springtown Hill Road within Springfield Township and Prescribing Penalties for The Violation of this Ordinance.

Municipal Building – HVAC Improvements Update – Motion made by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Ryker and unanimously approved to accept part 1 of the engineering proposal of \$3,720 to H.T. Lyons to be paid out of ARPA fund.

Public Works Equipment Operator / Laborer / Driver Hiring Discussion – Mr. Hoferica, will be retiring on September 30, 2023. The 2023 budget originally replaced him in July but Manager Pursell pushed the replacement hire back to September. Mr. Pursell is looking for permission to advertise the position. Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously approved to advertise for the position of Public Works Equipment Operator/ Laborer/ Driver at the rate of \$23.00 per hour.

Discussion on Truck Upfitting Payment – Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Kade, and unanimously approved to pay for the 2024 International Dump Truck in the amount of \$61,273 out of the ARPA account.

International Dump Truck Revised Quote and Upfitting Approval – Decision to purchase was approved at the last meeting but the previous cost was wrong due to a different horsepower quote. Motion made by Mr. Kade, seconded by Mr. Nilsen and unanimously approved to accept the revised quote for the international dump truck with an increase of \$2,980. Motion made by Mr. Matzura, seconded by Mr. Nilsen and unanimously approved the proposal from E.M. Kutz in the amount of \$69,511 for the upfitting of the 2025 International dump truck.

Appointment and Compensation of Treasurer – The position of Treasurer needs to be filled. Since Manager Pursell is assistant treasurer, it makes sense that he be appointed to the position of Treasurer. Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously approved to appoint Township Manager Pursell as the Treasurer with a one-time stipend of \$9,200 (10%) in addition to the manager's salary.

2023 Mid-Year Budget Performance Review – A mid-year budget update was given.

REPORTS / COMMENTS

Zoning – A report was received and is on file.

Police – A report was received and is on file. Chief McDonald discussed the recent motorcycle fatality on Route 412/212 and that PennDOT discussed putting a light there which is a \$200,000 cost to the Township. PennDOT reached out to a resident about cutting back their brush. Supervisors asked the Chief about ticketing speeders in the area and requested more speed enforcement in that area as the residents want that as well.

Public Works – A report was received and is on file. Manager Pursell stated he received Dirt & Gravel Grants for \$19,830. Pleasant View Road will get paved tomorrow since the previous storm had washed it out.

Solicitor – A report was received and is on file. An extension letter for the Conditional Use hearing regarding Haycock Ministries was received and the Conditional Use hearing will be on September 12th, 2023.

Engineer – A report was received and is on file.

Planning Commission – No report was given.

Parks & Land Preservation Board – No report was given. Secretary Gerhart advised the typo on the agenda and the next meeting is September 14th.

EAC – No report was given.

Supervisor Kade discussed Springtown Water Authority digging up in Springtown. They are checking valves for lead as they are required to by the Federal Government by the year 2024.

CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you note from the Bucks County SPCA for Springfield Township's donation of \$508 for the year 2023. Mr. Loren Hubler, was present on Zoom and read his correspondence he sent to Manager Pursell which was previously shared with the BOS. Mr. Hubler's concern was the retiring police officer being replaced. Supervisors advised Budget meetings are coming up and the Board will consider all options and do their best to sustain the quality of life for all residents in the Township. Mr. Hopkins reminded everyone the Budget meetings are public meetings and all residents are welcome.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Robert Heitz, Deputy Chief Shelly Fire Department, asked about the disbursement for fire tax funds.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Ryker mentioned the support of neighbors helping neighbors after the last storm.

Mr. Kade asked Manager Pursell how much the last storm cost the township in repairs. Mr. Pursell said approximately \$15,000-\$20,000.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Matzura noted there will be an executive session held after this meeting to discuss personnel. Mr. Matzura also noted the BOS meeting scheduled for August 8, 2023 is cancelled.

Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Nilsen, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Gerhart
Secretary