

DECEMBER 14, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Mahoney at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 14, 2010 in the Township Building.

The following other Commissioners were present: Mrs. Sage, Messrs. Janiczek, Wechsler, Rudolph, Layden and Lanciano. Also present were Messrs. LeFevre and Byrne, as well as Mrs. Warner.

The Invocation was given by Pastoral Assistant, Lisa Kiefner of Life Christian Church, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Police Chief Joseph Daly presented a special Commendation of Merit to Police Jack Bierling for self-initiated felony arrest of three career criminals regarding a bank robbery in Media on August 24, 2010.

Officer Andrew McKenna was also presented a special Commendation of Merit to August 4, 2010, in assisting in the apprehension of a career criminal after a robbery at Genardi's.

Dr. Janiczek presented a Resolution of Commendation to Bryan Dewan on obtaining the coveted award of Eagle Scout.

Mrs. Sage presented a Resolution of Commendation to the Springfield Youth's Club Senior Cheerleading Squad for winning the 2010 Bert Bell Championship.

Mrs. Sage also presented a Resolution of Commendation to the Springfield Youth's Club Junior Cheerleading Squad for winning the 2010 Bert Bell Championship.

Mr. Layden presented a Resolution of Commendation to the Springfield Youth Club's 80-pound Varsity Cougars Football Team for winning the 2010 Bert Bell Championship.

REGULAR MEETING

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION

COMMENDATIONS

EAGLE SCOUT

RESOLUTIONS OF  
COMMENDATION

DECEMBER 14, 2010

MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Rudolph, the minutes of November 9 and 22, 2010 were approved as transcribed. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Mahoney asked if anyone in the audience wished to comment on any of the agenda items. Seeing none, the meeting continued.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Mahoney called for Committee Reports.

Planning Commission

Mrs. Sage stated the Planning Commission met with representatives of the Bottom Dollars Grocery Store to review comments from the Code Enforcement Director and Township Engineer at their November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Planning Commission will meet with Bottom Dollar again in January after they receive the Zoning Hearing Board's decision on the property.

Bottom Dollar

Dr. Janiczek reported the Zoning Hearing Board will be hearing Bottom Dollar Grocery Store's application on December 16. The proposed development is at the corner of Baltimore Pike and Leamy Avenue. He announced the Township will be sending the Township Solicitor to oppose this application, based upon the proposal is not in conformity with the current zoning restrictions.

Code Enforcement

Dr. Janiczek reminded residents sidewalks must be cleared within a 24 hour period after a snow has stopped falling. He also stated plowing or dumping of snow into the streets is prohibited and as well as vehicles being parked in the streets designated as "snow emergency routes". The Board is looking at the possible denying parking of vehicles in cul-de-sacs during snowstorms. There are 66 cul-de-sacs streets in the Township, which require special vehicle to plow them.

Traffic Issues

Mr. Wechsler announced several Board members will be meeting with State Representative Adolph to discuss concerns over a number of traffic issues, specifically PennDOT roads in the Township.

Mr. Wechsler announced this is Michael LeFevre's last meeting. He presented Mr. LeFevre with a wall hanging of this evening's agenda for his new office. He thanked him for all he has done for Springfield and wished him luck as he assumed his new duties in Abington Township.

Michael LeFevre

Mr. Rudolph reported the Signal/Street Lighting Department responded to 58 street light outages during the month of November. Three service-related problems were turned over to PECO. Four traffic signals were reported by the Police Department and repaired.

Traffic/Street Lighting

Mr. Rudolph read the Public Works monthly report. The Public Works department completed the entire leaf collection schedule and has begun their second rotation. Mechanics are inspecting all snow removal equipment for the 2010-11 snow and ice season. Total tons of paper collected for recycling for the month of November was 134 tons. Total tons of commingled collected for November was 65 tons. Total tons of trash collected for November was 1,140 tons. Due to the Christmas holiday on December 24, 2010, trash and recycling will not be collected. Trash and recycling will not be collected on the New Year's holiday, January 3, 2011.

Public Works

Mr. Layden announced the Library has ongoing books sales. He reported solar panels that were installed on the roof of the Library has generated enough electricity to power 1,023 homes for one day and reduced the carbon dioxide emissions by 63,734 lbs. PA Energy Harvest Grant was awarded to Springfield Township which made these panels possible.

Library

He noted all children programs will resume on Monday, January 3. The Library will be participating in "Smoke Free", which is a smoke free cessation program sponsored by Main Line Health, will be held on six consecutive Tuesday evenings, beginning January 4th.

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Parks

Mr. Lanciano read the Parks maintenance report for the month of November. The department completed all football and soccer field maintenance for the year. Most of the department's time was spent on leaf removal in the Parks other Township-owned properties. As part of the tree planting program, Mr. Lanciano recognized Frank Pappa, Superintendent of Parks Department, and his crew for picking up 100 bare root trees and delivering them to the homes where they were planted.

Golf Course

Mr. Lanciano read the Golf Course maintenance report for the month of November . The maintenance department put up Christmas lighting and displays at the Clubhouse, winterized the irrigations system and continued with daily course clean-up. For the month of November, total rounds were 2,213, bringing the year-to-date total to 34,481 rounds. Total revenue was \$71,860 bringing the year to date revenue to \$1,304,135, \$181 over last year. Off-seasons golf rates are in effect.

Police

Mr. Mahoney reported the Springfield Community Watch Program began conducting weekend patrols over the past five weeks. Members have reported 21 incidents to the police, resulting four arrests. Membership has exceeded 30 patrollers and continues to grow.

BILLS SUBMITTED

Mr. Wechsler moved that all bills approved for payment by the appropriate chairperson be paid. Seconded by Mr. Rudolph and carried.

TREASURER'S  
REPORT

On motion of Dr. Janiczek, seconded by Mr. Wechsler the Treasurer's Report for November 2010 was accepted and ordered filed.

ORDINANCE #1510  
2011 Budget

Mr. Rudolph summarized the proposed 2011 budget ordinance for 2011. He moved for the adoption of Ordinance #1510, which includes no tax increase. The average household assessment at \$148,000 will continue to pay \$737.04 for municipal services. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano.

Mr. Wechsler moved for the adoption of Ordinance amending the refuse fee to \$200 per residential dwelling unit and for persons over 65 years of age with an annual income of \$20,500 or less may request a rebate of \$150. Widows or widowers over the age of 50 meeting the same income qualifications may also apply for the same rebate. Permanently disabled persons who are owner or obligated tenants may obtain a refund of the \$200 fee. Seconded by Dr. Janiczek and carried.

ORDINANCE #1511  
Refuse Fee

Dr. Janiczek read a proposed ordinance amending Chapter 129, Article II, "Mercantile Tax", by revising sections regarding payment of taxes and by the addition of a sentence that states: "The Springfield Township Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights shall govern whether and when interest may be due on an overpayment of taxes". He moved that the proposed ordinance be accepted on its first reading and advertised. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE  
Mercantile Tax

Mr. Layden moved for the adoption of Resolution #24-10 amending Resolution 1-99 by implementing the requirements of the Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights of Act 50 of 1998 and appointing Michael Gilfedder, Esq, as the Local Tax Hearing Officer. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

RESOLUTION #24-10  
Local Taxpayer Bill  
of Rights

Dr. Janiczek moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 25-10 setting the annual contribution of police officers to the Police Pension Plan for the year 2011 at 5%. Seconded by Dr. Janiczek and carried.

RESOLUTION #25-10  
Police Pension  
Contribution

Mr. Rudolph moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 26-10 providing for a 2% discount on 2011 sewer rent bill paid within sixty days of the date of the bill. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

RESOLUTION #26-10  
Sewer Rent Discount

Mr. Lanciano moved authorizing the Township Engineer to release \$16,800.00 from the escrow account for the Crozer-Keystone Health System, 100 W. Sproul Road. Seconded by Mr. Wechsler and carried.

RELEASE OF  
ESCROW FUNDS

DECEMBER 14, 2010

OPEN RECORDS  
OFFICER

As part of the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know legislation which became effective in January 2009, Mr. Wechsler moved to appoint Lee Fulton the new Open Records Officer, effective January 1, 2011, replacing Mr. LeFevre who is leaving our employment at the end of December. Seconded by Dr. Janiczek and carried.

AUDIENCE

George Miller, 311 Alliston Road, questioned increase in the refuse fee from \$150 to \$200 and asked for justification. Mr. LeFevre replied the revenue we collected this year under the current rate did not cover our expenses for sanitation collection. The rate increase next year will bring us closer to covering our actual cost. Mr. Miller questioned the 2% discount for sewer rent and what negative impact does it have on the charge for treating our waste water. Mr. LeFevre replied that 2% discount is factored in our revenue for the year based on prior year collections and actual water consumption.

Jean Fernandez, 439 Burns Drive, raised questions concerning the Township eliminating jobs versus early retirement and who was responsible for deciding what job was eliminated.

ADJOURNMENT  
(9:10 p.m.)

Dr. Janiczek moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Mr. Rudolph and carried.