

OCTOBER 13, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Rudolph at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 in the Township Building.

REGULAR MEETING

The following Commissioners were present: Mmes. Sage, and Hoffman, Messrs. Kelly, Wechsler, Layden and Lanciano. Also present was Messrs. Fulton and Byrne, and Mrs. Warner.

ROLL CALL

The Invocation was given by Mr. Wechsler followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Chief Daly announced that the Springfield Police Department received their 4<sup>th</sup> Certificate of Accreditation from the PA Chief of Police Association. The Chief said to become accredited, the police department must meet the majority of nationally recognized best practice standards and sub-standards of performance and operation. It is an arduous process to go through and also very difficult to keep abreast of everything. Chief Daly presented a certification plaque to the Board of Commissioners. Police Sargent Dave Ditrolio stated that this is a huge commitment and monetary commitment. He thanked the Board for allowing the Police Department to do this and most importantly, the men and women that you see out on the street handling all these calls and keep us with our professional objectives. Mr. Rudolph commented that the majority of PA police departments do not go through this expense, but more importantly, accreditation allows our standards and our policies to be judged by others to make sure they are correct. This is such a tribute to us and a good feeling that the officers abide by this and the residents are safer and certainly protected better with the fact that the police department went through the accreditation process.

POLICE ACCREDITATION

On motion of Mrs. Hoffman, the minutes of September 8, 2020 was approved as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

MINUTES

OCTOER 13, 2020

## PUBLIC COMMENT

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

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Rudolph called for Reports of Committees.

## Public Safety

Mr. Wechsler reported that he sits on the Township's Public Safety committee. The committee has been conducting a study with a consultant who has been looking into all the emergency services in the Township.

## Reflective Garden

Mr. Wechsler said there is a reflective garden and park benches to the right of the Township Building that the garden club works, The Park's Department put a paved path from the sidewalk to the garden. An outside vendor donated that and Mr. Wechsler recognized Mr. Fulton as the doing a great job in facilitating this project.

## Ice Skating Rink

Mrs. Sage reported the Ice Skating Rink has been open for 6 weeks under the Covid-19 guidelines and to date the facility is operating very smoothly with the staff doing a great job disinfecting after each event. The 16 team in-house league will begin October 24, bringing the total hockey participation to about 90% of normal capacity. There is no public skating at this time.

## Library

Mrs. Hoffman reported as of Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, the library has extended our in-person hours and they are still offering curbside pickup beginning at 10 am each day. There is an array of different Adult Library Programs being held virtually. The fall book sale has been canceled, but you can visit the Library for their ongoing book sale.

## Parks

Mr. Lanciano read the monthly Parks report. The Parks crew installed a new layer of wood carpet at the playground at Memorial Park, removed fallen trees in two parks, repaired vandalism damage to the gazebo in Wagner Wayside Park, At the request of a local Girl Scout troop a Gaga Ball Pit was installed in Williams Park.

OCTOBER 13, 2020

Mr. Layden reported for the month of September, total rounds were 4,942, bringing the year-to-date total to 25,618 rounds. Total revenue for the month of September was \$247,680.00, bringing the course year-to-date revenue to \$1,274,018.00. The golf shop total revenue for the month of September was \$16,989.00, bringing the shop's year-to-date total sales to \$84,808.00. The crew completed all course fall aerifications and overseeding practices. Trees and shrubs throughout the golf course and Country Club gardens were pruned.

Golf Course

Mr. Kelly reported for the month of September, the Health Officer inspected 7 restaurants, 9 retail establishments and the new Springfield High School. He announced Springfield Township is sponsoring another "Shred-It-Event" on Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 10 am – 1 pm in front of the Township Building. The Township recently received \$76,256.00 from the DEP 904 Recycling Performance Grant. This grant is the result of total tonnages generated by Springfield residents, businesses and institutions.

Health

Mr. Kelly reported the Public Works Department continue to collect trash and recycling on regularly scheduled days throughout the Township. Due to the Columbus Day holiday, there was no trash or recycling collection. This week out of an abundance of caution and for the safety of our crews, there will be no recycling collection. A robo call went out in that regard and in the process of putting it on the Township website and social media. The final yard waste pick-up for 2020 was on September 16<sup>th</sup>. Leaf collection will begin on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Due to the Veterans' Day holiday on Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be no trash collection, recycling and special trash pick-ups.

Public Works

Mr. Rudolph at last month's meeting read a statement in response to the upcoming tax assessment. He read the statement again in case anyone missed it at last month's meeting.

County-wide Tax  
Reassessment

OCTOBER 13, 2020

## 2021 Budget

Mr. Rudolph reported the Township Manager, Lee Fulton, has been working on the 2021 budget. The Township Manager has been meeting with the department heads. Currently there is a 2 million dollar shortfall based on our revenues for next year and the big impact has been Covid. The Township is working very hard to make up the gap so there is no tax increase.

## BILLS SUBMITTED

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

ORDINANCE #1610  
Hotels, Motels, & Inns

Mrs. Sage moved for the adoption of Ordinance #1610 updating the Ordinance that was adopted in June 2020. The amendment revised Chapter 68 by authorizing the Township Manger or his designee to suspend, revoke or deny any application for license renewal in the event that there are more than ten (10) calls for service over any consecutive three (3) month period within twelve (12) months from the application and/or renewal date of a license. Seconded by Mr. Layden. Mr. Byrne explained the purpose of amending this ordinance. The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION #16-20  
Zoning Hearing Board

Mr. Kelly moved for the adoption of Resolution #16-20 appointing Nicholas Orloff, 332 Hawarden Road, as a full time member on the Zoning Hearing Board and appointing Joseph Arrell, 603 Farmhouse Circle (Swarthmore post office), as an alternate member on the Zoning Hearing Board. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

APPOINTMENTS  
UCC Board

On motion of Mr. Lanciano, Mr. Sean Finan, 100 Longview Drive, was appointed to a vacancy on the UCC Board. Seconded by Mr. Layden and carried.

## Planning Commission

On motion of Mrs. Hoffman, Mr. Kevin Dion, 913 Stewart Avenue, was appointed to an unexpired term on the Planning Commission. Seconded by Mr. Wechsler and carried.

OCTOBER 13, 2020

Mr. Kelly stated even though the Board of Commissioners does not need to vote on record for professional services that is under a certain dollar threshold, he wanted to publicly state on the record that it would be a good time for the Board to show more transparency. As stewards of Springfield Township residents tax dollars we should start taking a look the way our services are being provided. He suggested reviewing our legal and engineering services, insurance plans, benefits, etc. He said he will be sharing the ideas with the Board, as well as the public at large.

Mr. Wechsler moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Layden and carried.

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STATEMENT BY  
MR. KELLY

ADJOURNMENT  
(8:34 P.M.)