

DECEMBER 10, 2019

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Rudolph at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 in the Township Building.

ROLL CALL

The following Commissioners were present: Mrs. Sage, Messrs. Rudolph, Kelly, Janiczek, Wechsler, Layden and Lanciano. Also present were Messrs. Fulton and Byrne.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Reverend Robert Kinzel of the Blue Church followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

William Myers

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Dr. Janiczek presented a Resolution to William Myers congratulating him for reaching 100 years old. Mr. Myers was honored for his dedicated service as a long-time member of the Springfield Ambulance Corps and recording breaking service of more than 10,000 runs with the Ambulance Corps.

Jennifer O'Mara

Mr. Lanciano explained the Township developed a Parks Master Plan to identify certain needs throughout the Township parks. One of the needs is playing fields for our youth clubs. The Township submitted a grant application to the State for improvements to Meadowgreen Park. The plan is to construct a soccer field. He said without the support of State Representative Jennifer O'Mara the Township probably wouldn't have been successful. Also, identified was shortcomings in the trail system. The Township was also successful in receiving a grant for the Springfield Trail. State Representative O'Mara stated when she was first elected she met with the Board of Commissioners and Friends of Smedley Park. She found that in order to make some of these huge improvements we needed grants. She said she went back to Harrisburg and fought very hard to bring some of these grants to Springfield. She announced a \$250,000 grant was awarded for the Springfield Trail and \$250,000 grant awarded for Meadowgreen Park.

DECEMBER 10, 2019

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Mr. Wechsler presented a Resolution to Lee J. Janiczek, Ed.D. for the distinctive title of longest serving Commissioner in Springfield Township's history. For 44 years, Springfield has been the beneficiary of Dr. Janiczek's distinguished service as the 3rd Ward Commissioner. Each Commissioner said they were grateful to have had the opportunity to not only work with Dr. Janiczek but also to experience his proud vision to keep Springfield Township the best municipality in the State.

Dr. Janiczek thanked the community of Springfield, the residents of the 3rd Ward and the Board members sitting here tonight and the ones before them for having had the privilege and the opportunity to serve the community. All of these things would not have been possible if not for his family. He thanked the support of this family.

Mr. Rudolph stated that Mr. Layden has asked to address the crowd. He commented that at last month's meeting there were residents who spoke about his personal Facebook page and requested his resignation. He apologized to anybody who may have been offended by those posts. He said it was never his intention to offend anyone with the memes. He said he did not create them but reposted them. After reflecting on the comments and reactions, he felt additional steps on his part should take place to prevent unintended offenses. He discussed the matter with the Township Solicitor who provided him with a name of Dr. Ilene Wasserman. Dr. Wasserman provides training on unconscious bias. Mr. Layden stated he went to her for consultation. He commented that he will not resign as the 6th Ward Commissioner but will take this moment as an opportunity to learn and move forward. He has taken down his old Facebook page and created a new one as commissioner where he will talk about community issues.

Mr. Rudolph recommended that training could be extended to the entire board.

Dr. Janiczek

MR. LAYDEN

DECEMBER 10, 2019

Mr. Byrne stated he was asked to check into the whether there are any disciplinary measures that should be taken or whether anything illegal was done in this situation. Mr. Byrne stated he reviewed relevant statues and policies and there is nothing illegal or call for any disciplinary action. Mr. Byrne asked if anyone who is here to speak against what Mr. Layden did, raise your hand. Then Mr. Byrne asked if there was anyone who would like to speak in favor of Mr. Layden, raise your hand.

Mr. Rudolph opened the floor to allow for public comment. Mr. Byrne asked that no redundant comments be made.

The following thanked Mr. Layden for his apology, but did not like that he said it is a political ploy.

Jeannette Harrington, 449 Maplewood Road
Marie Turnbull, 510 Sharpless Road
Karin McCurdy-Melfi, 216 Midland Road
Evan Bradley, 31 Saxer Avenue
Bonnie Hodges, 17 S. Hillcrest Road
Rachel, 1st Ward

The following spoke in favor of Mr. Layden and were surprised at the Facebook posts of democratic activists:

Eric DiVaro, 467 Kent Road
Carol Arnao, 323 Ballymore Road

Mr. Byrne stated that it's 9:00 p.m. and there is a full agenda. He said residents will have the opportunity to speak at the end of the meeting.

On motion of Mrs. Sage, the minutes of November 12, 2019 were approved as submitted. Seconded by Dr. Janiczek and carried.

MINUTES

DECEMBER 10, 2019

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Rudolph asked if anyone in the audience wished to comment on any of the agenda items.

Mr. David Russell, 424 Foulke Lane, asked why the agenda did not come up on the website until 6:00 p.m. and the minutes never did. It is the policy of the Board to post the minutes of the previous meeting prior to the current meeting. Mr. Fulton replied that the policy is that the minutes will be approved tonight from last month and will be on line tomorrow.

Mr. Byrne stated the minutes do not become official until the Board approves them. There wouldn't be any purpose to publishing the minutes until it's over. The proposed minutes are given to the Board who has the job of approving them or not approving them the week before the meeting so that they can review them. Once they become official meeting minutes they will be published. Mr. Russell stated it would be a reasonable upgrade to have the agenda published sooner and have it be a little more details than just titles of what is going to happen. Mr. Fulton stated there is work on the agenda up to 5:00 p.m. There are changes and alterations that are pulled from the agenda and added at the last minute, so I would like to see the agenda done the day before because it is really a hectic day to try to get this agenda done. Mr. Kelly stated when we have our agenda meeting the week prior, I try to at least post this on my twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts, even though it is just preliminary.

Mr. Rudolph called for Committee Reports.

L & I

Mr. Kelly reported for the month of November, there were 193 permits issued and 20 contractors registered. Total permits fees were \$123,547.00, \$100 contractor's registrations fees, minus the Commonwealth surcharge of \$113, for a total of \$124,034.00.

DECEMBER 10, 2019

Zoning

Mr. Kelly reported zoning hearing scheduled for November 19th was continued at the request of the applicant. Application of Outback Steakhouse will be heard on December 19th.

Health

Mrs. Sage reported for the month of November, the Health Officer inspected 9 restaurants, 5 retail establishments and 2 reinspections. The tip of the month is to remind residents how to defend against carbon monoxide poisoning.

Library

Dr. Janiczek reported there is a list of programs occurring at the Library. He recommended residents tune in to the community channel or visit the Library to find out what programs are being held. The new Librarian, Mrs. Rushton, is doing an outstanding job.

Parks

Mr. Lanciano reported the majority of Parks Department time has been spent on leaf removal in all parks and township owned properties. Repairs to the split rail fences in Wildwood, Memorial and Crowell were completed.

Planning

Mr. Wechsler reported the Planning Commission met on December 5th to review a Conditional Use Application for Anthony's Fired Coal Pizza restaurant to be located in the Olde Sproul Shopping Village. The Commission recommended approval, subject to the Engineer's comments.

Public Works

Mr. Layden reported the Public Works Department will be repeating the leaf schedule beginning December 16th. Due to the Christmas holiday on Wednesday, December 25th and New Year's Day holiday on Wednesday, January 1st, trash and recycling will not be collected.

Recycling

Mr. Layden reported for November, total trash collected 942 tons. Paper recycling was 85.3 tons, single stream/commingled was 63.1 tons and 45.25 tons for bulk items.

DECEMBER 10, 2019

Mr. Layden reported total rounds for the month of November was 1,332 bringing the year to date total to 30,711 rounds. The total revenue for the month was \$59,678 bringing the year to date revenue total to \$1,463,795, which is a positive variance of \$236,678 over a seven year moving average.

Golf Course

Mr. Rudolph reported this past Sunday was our 5th annual tree lighting hosted by the Fire Company and again it exceeded our expectations with the Grinch being arrested and turning nice. This Saturday at the Fire house from 10 am to 2 pm is pictures with Santa. This no-fee day with the young ones coming up and sitting on Santa's lap is hosted by the Fire Company. It is the Fire Company's 100th anniversary serving the community.

Fire Company

Mr. Rudolph reported the Board's 2020 budget committee has been meeting for the last three months and trying to pare things down to what is reasonable. It's been arduous task this year with collective bargaining agreements, grants that have Township matches as high as 70%. According to the preliminary budget presented recently by the Township Board of Commissioners, Township real estate taxes will be going up in 2020 for the first time in three years. Real estate millage rate will increase .5229 mills for a total millage rate of 6.33 or \$633 for each \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The average homeowner assessed value of \$148,000 will see a slight increase in the real estate tax bill of approximately \$77 annually for 2020. This is the first time since 2017 that the millage has been increased. Additionally, the sewer rent rate will increase to \$8.50 per 1,000. The increase of millage is reflective of the following:

2020 Budget

- reduction in overall township assessed value which is set by the County.
- matching funds for various grants
- increase in recycling fees
- hiring two police officers
- park upgrades consisted with the Parks Master Plan

DECEMBER 10, 2019

	<p>The Board will continually work diligently to present a responsible budget. Final adoption of the budget is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on December 17, 2019.</p>
<p>BILLS SUBMITTED</p>	<p>Mr. Kelly moved that all bills approved for payment by the appropriate chairperson be paid. Seconded by Mrs. Sage and carried.</p>
<p>BIDS: Gasoline & Gasoline & Diesel Fuel</p>	<p>Mr. Wechsler reported three bids were received for gasoline and diesel fuel. She moved that the bid be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, Riggins, Inc. meeting or exceeding the bid specifications. Seconded by Mr. Layden and carried.</p>
<p>PROPOSED ORDINANCE Stop Intersection</p>	<p>Mr. Layden read a proposed ordinance creating a three-way stop intersection at Sherman Road and Indian Rock Drive facing westbound and eastbound traffic on Sherman Road and northbound on Indian Road Road. He moved that the proposed ordinance be approved for its first reading and advertised. Seconded by Mr. Wechsler and carried.</p>
<p>RESOLUTION #21-19 Police Pension Plan</p>	<p>Mr. Wechsler moved for the adoption of Resolution #21-19 setting the annual contribution by police officers to the Police Pension Plan for 2020 at 5%. Seconded by Mr. Layden and carried.</p>
<p>RESOLUTION #22-19 Sewer Rent Discount</p>	<p>Dr. Janiczek moved for the adoption of Resolution #22-19 providing for a 2% discount on a 2020 sewer rent bill paid within sixty days of the date of the bill. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.</p>
<p>RESOLUTION #23-19 DCBG PROGRAM</p>	<p>Mr. Kelly moved for the adoption of Resolution #23-19 authorizing the Township Manager to submit an application to Delaware County for the FY 2020 Community Development Grant Program for the a new fencing at Old Central School, Seconded by Mrs. Sage and carried.</p>

DECEMBER 10, 2019

On motion of Mr. Layden, the 2020 Golf Fees were approved. Daily fees were increased by \$1.00. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried. Dr. Janiczek verified that all other fees will remain the same.

Dr. Janiczek moved to approve the Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contract between the Township and Energy Systems Groups, LLC, subject to the approval of the Township Solicitor. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano. Mr. Kelly confirmed that this was in regard to the LED lighting program. The motion was carried.

Mr. Lanciano moved authorizing the Township Engineer to release the remaining escrow funds (\$1,613.50) for Corrado Napoletano, 481 Beatty Road, Subdivision. Seconded by Dr. Janiczek and carried.

Mrs. Sage moved to appoint Daniel Kelly, 1054 West Avenue to an unexpired term on the Park Board. Seconded by Dr. Janiczek and carried.

Mr. Michael Puppio, 962 Edwards Drive, thanked Dr. Janiczek for his service and dedication to the Township. He admired that Lee has always been a team player.

Kevin Dion, 913 Stewart Avenue, also thanked Dr. Janiczek for his service and also spoke on behalf of Mr. Layden. He stated he is here to support Mr. Layden's reputation as a good man.

Al Kapczynski, 717 Sheffield Drive, stated he has had only one Commissioner that I know that has represented me for 44 years. Lee has always been supportive of the 3rd Ward and thanked him.

Dr. Janiczek stated his replacement is a person that I hold in high regard. She worked hard through a year of campaigning going door-to-door, having small coffee

2020 GOLF FEES

ENERGY SAVINGS
PERFORMANCE
CONTRACTRELEASE OF
ESCROW FUNDS

PARK BOARD

DECEMBER 10, 2019

klatches and more. Her name is Suzanne Hoffman and will be doing an outstanding job. The people of Springfield will be well served by Suzanne Hoffman.

Jeff Postus, 236 N. Rolling Road, pointed out that diversity in Springfield is not new. He supports Mr. Layden.

Kirsten Adams, 648 Old School House Drive, commented that she was offended by the Facebook posts and recommended a code of ethics be put in place for the Township.

Marie Samohod, 137 N. Rolling Road, commented that her and her husband were offended by Mr. Layden's posts.

Erin Kennedy Rodgers, 230 N. Rolling Road, recommended that the Board of Commissioner receive unconscious bias training, as well as developing a code of ethics.

ADJOURNMENT
(9:55 P.M.)

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