

DECEMBER 14, 2021

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 14, 2021, in the Township Building.

ROLL CALL

The following Commissioners were present: Mmes. Sage, Messrs. Kelly, Lanciano, Layden, Kennedy and Dion. Also, present was Messrs. Fulton, Lucas and Byrne.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Rev. Pam McShane from the Tree of Life Church followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by Mr. Layden.

MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Lanciano, the minutes of November 9, 2021, were approved as submitted. Second by Mr. Layden and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Rudolph asked if anyone in the audience wished to comment on any of the agenda items. Hearing none the meeting continued.

COMMITTEE
REPORTS

President Rudolph called for Reports of Committees.

ICE RINK

Mrs. Sage reported that the Springfield Ice Rink is having a very successful season with public skating growing each weekend. Hockey and skating lessons are near full capacity in both programs. Santa will be at the rink to greet skaters on Sunday, December 19, during the 2:00pm till 3:30pm session. For our expanded holiday schedule visit www.springfieldicerink.com.

Mr. Dion reported the Friends of Springfield Library Book Sale have their ongoing book sale with a nice selection of holiday themed books, DVD's and music CD's. You can find juvenile books on the lower level. The bargain prices will help your pocket and the Library. Fall Session II programs ended on December 10. Winter Session 1 will pick up on January 3rd with all our popular programs. All will be held either in the Library or on Zoom. New this winter is a Teen Writing Workshop and STEAM programs. Registration is required for all programs. Springfield Township Library presents, Philadelphia Oddities, Thursday, January 13th at 7:00pm. A complete schedule of activities can be found at: www.springfieldtwplib.org. Visit or call the Library at 610-543-2113.

LIBRARY

There were 7 restaurant inspections, three retail and one re-inspection. There were two dog bites, both were not in Springfield Township but Mrs. Warner handled them. Every year Springfield submits DEP's Act 101-904 Recycling Grant. DEP has mandated that all first-class Townships recycle the materials included in this grant. The funding received is based solely on the total annual tonnages recycled by our residents, businesses, schools, churches, etc. By protecting the environment & keeping recyclable materials out of the trash stream, the Township received \$73,623.00 for our 2020 recyclables. Springfield residents do a terrific job of recycling, let's work together and increase our efforts to reduce, reuse, recycle in 2022!

HEALTH

Mr. Kelly reported there were three sewer emergencies During the month of November. Public Works is currently Collecting leaves throughout the Township. We will be repeating the schedule starting the week of December 13, 2021. They are preparing the trucks and equipment for the upcoming Winter season. Due to the upcoming Christmas Day and New Years Day holidays on Friday, December 24th and

PUBLIC WORKS

December 31st, trash and recycling will not be collected. Please hold until your next regularly scheduled day. Recycling normally collected on those days will be collected on Wednesday, December 29th, along with Wednesday's normal collection. The totals for November are as follows: Municipal waste 1068.92 tons, paper 87.47 tons, commingled a little over 72.42 tons and bulk waste at 35.95 tons.

GOLF COURSE

Mr. Layden reported for the month of November, the total rounds were 2,179 bringing the year-to-date total to 38,730 rounds. The total revenue for the month was \$112,818.00, bringing the course year-to-date revenue total to \$2,043,623 dollars. The seven-year moving average year to date is \$1,321,343.00 giving us a positive variance of \$722,280.00. The Golf shop total revenue for the month was \$7,232.00, bringing the shop's year to date total sales to \$130,590.00. The course was opened 29 days during the month. The complete irrigation system has been drained down and blown out to prevent winter ice damage. Continue with daily course clean-up of leaves, pinecones, and debris. Regular daily maintenance of the golf course continues.

ZONING

Mr. Layden reported the Zoning Hearing Board convened a special meeting on November 18, 2021, at 7:30pm, to hear and render decisions of the following applications: ZH-21-03: the board approved the Application of Pramukh Swami Maharaj, LLC, the property is located in the "E" Business and TND-3 Overlay Districts and is known as 675 Baltimore Pike. ZH-21-11: The Board approved the Application of Larry Robinson, petitioner, on behalf of Paul Carboni, owner, seeks the following dimensional variance from the Zoning Ordinance to allow the construction and attachment of an 18' x 24'- 6" two story addition and accessory deck to an existing detached garage. The property is located in the "A" Residence district and is known as 458 Kent Road. There are no hearings scheduled for the month of December.

Mr. Lanciano reported the Parks Department has completed the first phase of tree and shrub planting in Meadowgreen Park. This was a combined effort between the Parks, Fields, and Golf Course crews. Mr. Lanciano wanted to give an update on grants that we have received, Delco-Greenways Grant round 2 funding for open space at Pennsdale and Greenbriar Parks in the amount of \$500,000.00, thanks to our grant writer, administration department and Commissioner Dion for their assistance. The grant for the second phase of the Springfield Trail, Springfield Township has to go back to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and confirm what we agreed to in the grant application and make sure no changes have been made. This will occur in January 2022 and providing everything goes according to schedule we should go out for bid in February of 2022, construction should begin Spring/summer 2022 and we have asked for an extension of one year due to delay in design and COVID issues that we have had to contend with and that will bring us to the summer of 2023. We also have a grant worth 75,000 Crum Creek Watershed which is behind Lester and Lewis Roads. The funding will go towards the restoration of Whiskey Run, including cleaning and grubbing, erosion and sediment control, ground stabilization, native and non-invasive planting, reconnecting the flood plain where possible and enhancing the vegetation. We want to make Springfield the best place it could be.

Mr. Rudolph talked about the winter holiday safety, December is a month that the Fire Co. has responded to serious and devastating fires especially around the holidays. To have Happy and Safe Holidays with your families utilize these National Fire Protection tips.

Candles: Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Use battery candles as an option.
Lighting Decorations: Replace any lights or extension Cords with worn or broken cords. “When in doubt throw them out” Use decorations per the manufacture’s recommendations for indoor or outdoor use. Turn off lights

PARKS

PRESIDENT
 RUDOLPHS
 ANNOUNCEMENT

strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

Christmas Trees: Keep 3 feet from heating sources and add water to the tree daily. Dried trees are a danger indoors.

Cooking: Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the Stovetop.

Alarms: Test your smoke and CO alarms monthly.

Mr. Rudolph read a statement regarding the 2022 Budget stating that each year the Board of Commissioners and Township staff strive to put together a municipal budget that holds the line on taxes. The past three fiscal years, we successfully developed budgets that contained no tax increases. Last year amid the challenges posed by COVID, we made a range of cuts to maintain our budget and taxes at flat levels. However external forces beyond our control are the drivers of budget increases. Unfortunately, that is the case with the fiscal year 2022 budget. Financial experts project that by the end of 2021, inflation will increase by 6.6%. For 2022 the inflation rate is projected to be 2.7%. While we see a modest increase in the Township's overall assessed value, that revenue will not be enough to offset all of these increased costs. As a result of these cost drivers, this final budget contains an increase in the Township millage from 3.525 mills to 3.63 mills. For the average house in Springfield, assessed at \$300,000.00, that would equate to a \$31.50 increase per year in township property taxes. The rate increases are not implemented by the Township but by outside agencies and they are being passed on to consumers. The three sewer authorities serving Springfield Township have increased fees by more than \$1 million. In order to address these increases we have to increase sewer fees from \$10.25 per thousand gallons of water used to \$10.70 per thousand gallons which represents an increase of \$0.45. Municipal Solid Waste disposal has increased by 34% from \$58.00 per ton to \$78.00 per ton. As a result, the price has increased from \$250.00 to \$280.00 per year which equates to a \$30.00 increase per household. Through the diligent efforts of Township staff, we were able to limit the millage increase to the best of our ability but not entirely. Tonight, we present to the public the final 2022 budget.

DECEMBER 14, 2021

BILLS SUBMITTED

Mrs. Sage made a motion to accept the bills as submitted and reviewed by department heads, second by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 1615
2022 Budget

Mr. Layden read the 2022 Budget Ordinance. The 2022 budget calls for expenditures of \$19,740,200.00. The total millage is 3.63 mills. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano with a roll call vote requested. Mr. Kelly-nay, Mrs. Sage-nay, Mr. Dion-aye, Mr. Kennedy-nay, Mr. Layden-aye, Mr. Lanciano-aye, Mr. Rudolph-aye. The motion carried 4 to 3.

ORDINANCE # 1616
Sewer Rent

Mr. Dion read an ordinance setting the Sewer Rent Rate for the year 2022 at \$10.70 per one thousand gallons of water consumed. He moved that the ordinance be accepted. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

ORDINANCE 1617
Garbage and Rubbish

Mr. Kelly read an ordinance amending the garbage and rubbish fee for the year 2022 to \$280 per residential dwelling unit. For persons who qualify under the Pennsylvania Property Tax or Rent Rebate Program, by receiving a rebate check from the State, may request a rebate equal to 25% of the amount of the state rebate check but will not exceed \$150. from the Township. He moved that the proposed ordinance be approved. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

NEW BUSINESS

RELEASE OF ESCROW
Springfield High School

Mr. Kennedy read a request from the Springfield School District to release funds from the Improvement Security

Escrow account in the amount of \$163,191.00 for the completion of certain site improvements as of November 10, 2021. Based on the Township Engineer’s December 3, 2021 correspondence authorizing the release of escrow funds, I recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the requested release of the Improvement Security Escrow amount, I so move. Second by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

Mr. Lanciano read Contract #SPFLD 20506 Springfield Township W. Rolling Road Basin Retrofit. Sealed Bids will be received by Springfield Township electronically through Penn Bid until 11:00am, prevailing time, on the 4th day of January 2022 at which time and place they will be publicly read at the Springfield Township administrative office, 50 Powell Road, Springfield, PA 19064. I so move, second by Mr. Layden and carried.

Mrs. Sage read Resolution # 16-21 Act 537 Plan Update. Section 5 of the Act of January 24, 1966, P.L. 1535, No. 537, known as the “Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act”, as amended, and the Rules and Regulations of the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) adopted thereunder, Chapter 71 of Title 25 of the Pennsylvania Code, requires the municipality to adopt an Official Sewage Facilities Plan providing for sewage services adequate to prevent contamination of water and/or environmental health hazards with sewage wastes, and to revise said Plan whenever it is necessary to meet the sewage disposal needs of the municipality. Second by Mr. Layden and carried.

Mr. Rudolph moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Mr. Kelly and carried. (8:40p.m.)

RE-BID W. ROLLING ROAD BASIN RETROFIT

RESOLUTION 16-21 Act 537 Plan Update

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT