

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP
WORKSESSION MEETING AGENDA
MARCH 7, 2013
7:30 PM

1. Meeting called to order by the Mayor
2. Reading of the Sunshine Notice
3. Salute to the Flag
4. Roll Call: Mr. Frank, Mr. Hlubik, Mr. Marinello, Mr. McDaniel, Mr. Sobotka
5. Resolutions
 - No. 2013-03-01 – Resolution of the Township Council of Springfield to Refund Escrow Monies
 - No. 2013-03-02 - Resolution of The Springfield Township Council Authorizing the Release of a Performance Bond and Acceptance of a Maintenance Bond
6. Review of Budget
7. Review of Department Reports
8. Review of Bills
9. Review Correspondence
10. Township Officials' Business
 - Approval of Veteran's Park Use-NB Soccer Club
 - Approval of Use of Veteran's Park-Diane Ogonofski
11. Public Comment
12. Executive Session
 - No. 2013-03-03 – Resolution Providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (Land Acquisition and Personnel-Appointments)
13. Adjournment

**TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 7, 2013**

The meeting of the Springfield Township Council was called to order by Mayor McDaniel with Council Members David Frank, Mr. Hlubik, Mr. Marinello and Peter Sobotka present. Also present was Township Manager Mr. Keller.

The Sunshine Notice was read:

"Public notice of this meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given by the Springfield Township Council in the following manner on January 3, 2013:

- a. Posting written notice on the official bulletin board at the Municipal Building, Jobstown, NJ
- b. Transmitting written notice to the Register News and the Burlington County Times
- c. Filing written notice with the Clerk of Springfield Township
- d. Mailing written notice to each person who has requested copies of the regular meeting schedule and who has prepaid any charges fixed for such services."

RESOLUTIONS

Motion made by Mr. Sobotka and seconded by Mr. Hlubik to approve Resolution No. 2013-03-01. All were in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2013-03-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF SPRINGFIELD TO REFUND ESCROW MONIES

WHEREAS, T-Mobile made payment to escrow account number T-22-10-007-170-017, which was established for the purpose of a Planning Board Application for Block 1704 Lot 17 & 18; and

WHEREAS, T-Mobile has requested the remaining balance in this escrow account in the amount of \$752.00 be refunded to them; and

WHEREAS, the Board Professionals have confirmed there are no outstanding invoices.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Springfield Township Council that the balance remaining in escrow account T-22-10-007-170-017 in the amount of \$752.00 be refunded to T-Mobile.

Motion made by Mr. Sobotka and seconded by Mr. Hlubik to approve Resolution No. 2013-03-02. All were in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2013-03-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF A PERFORMANCE BOND AND ACCEPTANCE OF A MAINTENANCE BOND

WHEREAS, Dimitrios Theodoropoulos posted a Performance Guarantee in the amount of \$103,772.40 for site improvements to Block 1903, Lots 5 & 9; and

WHEREAS, an inspection of the site improvements by the Township Engineer found the improvements to be in accordance with the contract; and

WHEREAS, prior to the release of the Performance Guarantee, Dimitrios Theodoropoulos has posted a Maintenance Guarantee in the amount of \$15,565.86; and

WHEREAS, in a letter dated October 8, 2012, the Springfield Township Engineer recommends the release of the Performance Guarantee and acceptance of the Maintenance Guarantee in the amount of \$15,545.86.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Springfield Township Council to release Dimitrios Theodoropoulos from the Performance Bond and accept a Maintenance Guarantee in the amount of \$15,565.86 as recommended by the Township Engineer.

REVIEW OF BUDGET

Mr. Keller advised Council that he provided them with a revised budget because the wrong number was put in for Group Insurance, so there is an increase of \$16,000 over the previous budget they saw. He added that this increases the total budget 4.35 percent as opposed to the 3.44 percent in the previous one and the local tax rate increases from 1.37 to 1.732. He stated that Council could use surplus to keep the increase at the 1.37. Mr. Keller added that \$40,000 of the increase was due to the reserve for uncollected taxes. He went on to explain that the PFRS pension increased \$6,000 while the PERS pension actually went down because the reduction of administrative employees by two.

Mr. Hlubik asked why the emergency management O&E went from \$100 to \$5,000 and Chief Trout responded that Council discussed replacing some of the barricades, traffic cones and stop signs lost in the hurricane. Mr. Keller added that the Township should get reimbursed from FEMA for some of this equipment. Mr. Sobotka asked if we should increase the amount to the Fire Companies and Council responded that they have not asked for an increase.

Mr. Hlubik asked if there is enough in the body armor line item since it was decrease and Chief Trout stated that the department tries to rotate and do a couple each year.

Mr. Marinello asked about the Drunk Driving Enforcement grant and Chief Trout stated that there was a surplus and Mr. Keller stated that if the Township receives anymore grant money it would be added as a Chapter 159.

Mr. McDaniel stated that engineering costs have really gone down a great deal and he added that the Engineer used to be at every meeting and now only comes at the request of Council.

Mr. Sobotka asked if it is being recommended that we use surplus to reduce the tax increase and Mr. Keller responded that you could but he would not recommend going below the original increase of 1.37 and he does not advise using surplus if the Council can withstand the increase. Mr. Frank added that with the bonding we would need to think that in terms of next year's budget. Mr. Sobotka asked what the increase would be to the homeowner and it was discussed that the increase would be about \$50. Mr. Sobotka asked with the Bonding how much will that increase be next year and Mr. Keller stated that he would have to do the calculation and get back to Council. Mr. Sobotka stated that we will also have the increase for the five years for the revaluation and Mr. McDaniel added this is more of a reason for a cushion this year. Mr. McDaniel stated that there is a township that kept the tax rate steady for a number of years and it caught up with them a couple years ago and that really hurt the residents in that town.

Mr. Frank stated that we should keep the budget where it is and advance ourselves towards next year and Mr. McDaniel thinks we are ready to introduce so now is the time to make adjustments.

Mr. Frank stated that we have a request from Historic Society but he believes this money can come out of the Open Space Trust Fund but if not we would need to take it out of the budget. Mr. McDaniel stated that he believes we can use that Open Space money and it would not need to impact the budget so we should be ready for introduction next month.

REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mr. Frank stated that the little store in Jacksonville had a fuel truck parked there and now there is a Dietz and Watson truck parked there. Mr. Keller stated that he thought that was addressed but he would follow up.

Council agreed to hold the reports until next week.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mr. Sobotka asked if there is a schedule for the payment to the Fire Companies and Mr. McDaniel responded that there is paperwork involved and that has been an issue in the past as to why they are paid at different times.

Mr. McDaniel asked if the engineering for the tax maps is under the assessor or engineering line item and Mr. Keller stated that Council could amend the special emergency resolution to cover this. Mr. Frank asked if applicants applying for a subdivision pay a tax map fee and Mr. Keller stated that we could do that by Ordinance. Mr. Frank stated that if we don't have an Ordinance we should do that. Mr. Keller stated that we could amend the special emergency resolution next meeting to include tax map.

REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

#1 Letter from the Historical Society requesting funding to put up information signs. Mr. Toone spoke on this request and he stated that these signs would let people know what their town is all about, as well as people going through Springfield. Mr. Sobotka asked how this request would fit with the sign ordinance and how many signs are we talking about. Mr. Toone stated that these signs would be placed mostly at the parks except the one by the deli in Jobstown. He added that he would like the sign in Jobstown because it will let the people travelling down Rte. 537 know that they are going through Jobstown and there is room in the triangle for people to pull off the road to read the sign. Mr. Sobotka asked if the signs will be allowed by Ordinance and Mr. Toone responded that this is not a business and that is what the sign Ordinance was put in place for not to regulate informational signs. Mr. Toone stated that the sign would sit back off the road so as not to impact traffic or the line of sight and they will work with the Chief and Engineer to make sure of this. Mr. Sobotka made a motion to approve the request with the Council having more input regarding the size of the signs. Mr. McDaniel suggested \$3,000 with further approval by Council and Mr. Sobotka amended his motion to be for \$3,000 seconded by Mr. Marinello. All were in favor. Motion carried.

#2 – Correspondence from the BURLCO JIF stating that the Township was given \$1,300 for a safety incentive. Mr. Keller stated that this would be used towards safety equipment.

#5 – Letter from the Mayor to Springfield School regarding security after the Sandy Hook incident. Mr. McDaniel stated that he just wanted to formalize what he and Mr. Marinello discussed with the School regarding school security and what the Township offered as assistance.

TOWNSHIP OFFICIAL'S BUSINESS

Mr. Sobotka stated that on March 23, from 10 – 3 there would be a blood drive sponsored by the recreation committee.

Mr. Sobotka stated that Pride in Springfield will be April 13th and Mr. Frank explain the day and he added that he would appreciate the reporter in the audience doing an article on this event. Chief Trout requested the dumpster be placed at the Annex building to prevent people from illegally dumping in the dumpster.

Motion made by Mr. Sobotka and seconded by Mr. Frank to approve the use of Veteran's Park by the Northern Burlington Soccer Club and to approve the use of Veteran's Park by Diane Ogonofski. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Marinello got a call from some new residents on Island Road to reduce the speed limit and to add some street lighting and he has discussed it with the Chief and that road did not really warrant a change in speed or lighting but they also requested two children at play signs one each way and he would like to know what Council thinks. Mr. Marinello stated that he has noticed similar signs throughout the Township. Mr. Marinello added that it is almost a traffic calming and should not affect the traffic. Chief Trout stated that you may have about a 75 percent effectiveness rate and Mr. Keller added that a sign would cost about \$100 plus labor. Council discussed that a sign would be placed in either direction and Mr. Frank stated that on his road there are more homes and they do not have a sign there. Council discussed other roads that have a 50-mile per hour speed limit and these types of signs. Mr. Marinello stated that you don't have to put up signs everywhere only where people are requesting them and he added that Council has granted similar requests for other residents regarding traffic concerns. Council discussed that the residents moved to a rural area with a 50-mile speed limit and they knew that before they moved here and Mr. Marinello responded that was his response to their request for the speed reduction and additional lighting. Council decided to revisit the request next week.

Mr. McDaniel spoke to Mr. Guzzi today and they are waiting for equipment for Juliustown Park. He added that on the front does Mr. Guzzi is working with Stanley and they have a new control to open just one door with a power assist. Mr. Sobotka stated that Mr. Keller needs to address the walking path in Juliustown Park with the Engineer because parts of the path go under water when there are heavy rains.

Mr. Frank wanted to discuss the reconfiguration of the road at Route 537 and Jacksonville-Jobstown Rd. and Jobstown-Juliustown Rd. He stated he had conversations with some folks from the County about aligning Route 670 with Juliustown Rd. and putting the traffic light at that point using the railroad right of way. He added the Township would need to acquire a right of way from one property where there is a dilapidated building. He added that it allows the Township to have a complete change to the downtown of Jobstown and this will increase the safety if the Township moves forward with the bike path in that direction. Council discussed that it might keep the truck traffic on Rt. 537. Mr. Marinello stated that he would be curious to hear what the County traffic engineer has to say about the plan but he likes the idea of a town center for Jobstown. Mr. Frank asked if Council would like him to keep his efforts up with the County and Council agreed that it seems like a good idea.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Lawrence, Juliustown stated that the Township should skip the children at play signs because the people knew the speed limit when they purchased the property.

Mr. Lawrence stated there is a dead branch hanging in a tree that may fall on Main St. in Juliustown. He suggested maybe have Mr. Eggleston go out and check it out.

Mr. Lawrence stated the intersection changes sound good but you are talking millions of dollars.

Hearing no further comments, Mr. Sobotka made a motion seconded by Mr. Hlubik to close public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Sobotka made a motion seconded by Mr. Frank to approve Resolution No. 2013-03-03 for the purpose of discussing land acquisition and personnel-appointments. All were in favor. Motion carried. Council entered into executive session at 8: 47 PM. Mayor McDaniel stated that Council would invite the public back in when they returned to public session.

RESOLUTION 2013-03-03

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A MEETING NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12

WHEREAS, The Township Council of the Township of Springfield is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., and

WHEREAS, The Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specific purposes when authorized by a Resolution, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Township Council of the Township of Springfield to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12: (Land Acquisition and Personnel-Appointments).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Springfield, assembled in public session on March 7, 2013 will go into an Executive Session closed to the public for the discussion of matters relating to the specific item designated above.

It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Township Council that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

Council returned to public session at 9:20 PM and the public was invited back in.

Mr. McDaniel reminded everyone that Council has a JIF meeting next week and the Council meeting will start at 8 PM and the Board of Health meeting is cancelled.

Mr. Sobotka made a motion seconded by Mr. Frank to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9: 22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Clayton
Township Clerk