

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP
WORKSESSION MEETING AGENDA
APRIL 2, 2015
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. Budget Discussion
6. Review of Department Reports
7. Review of Bills
8. Review Correspondence
9. Township Officials' Business
 - Safety Discussion
 - Approval of Raffle License - Springfield HAS
10. Public Comment
11. Adjournment

**TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 2, 2015**

The meeting of the Springfield Township Council was called to order by Mayor McDaniel with Council Members John Hlubik and Peter Sobotka present. Absent were Anthony Marinello and David Frank. 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 7, 2015:

- 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."

Mayor McDaniel led the salute to the Flag.

BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

Mayor McDaniel stated that we hope to introduce the budget next week.

Mr. Sobotka asked about the funds collected by the Municipal Court and Mr. Keller responded that the number in the budget is the correct number per the Auditors. Mayor McDaniel commented that the revenue keeps going down each year.

Mayor McDaniel stated that the school deferral is \$400,000 and unless something changes we will max out next year at \$350,000 and then the following year we will be at zero. Mr. McDaniel stated that the total debt service is up \$126,000 and he added that should be stable going forward. Mr. Keller stated that the reserve for uncollected taxes should go down next year because we lost almost 5 million dollars in tax appeals last year. He added that the revaluation company missed the Veterans so that was about 3 million in values that were lost so that will not happen again.

Mr. McDaniel stated that there is not much change in pensions or health benefits. Mr. Keller stated that the major increase is debt service, reserve for uncollected taxes and bond payments.

Mr. McDaniel asked about the \$82,000 for snow removal last year that is zero this year. Mr. Keller responded that was for an emergency appropriation and is reported elsewhere in the budget.

Mr. McDaniel asked about health benefits and Mr. Keller stated that he is working on getting a quote on a different type of plan. Mr. McDaniel discussed what is happening in the private sector and Mr. Keller responded that the Township can't change the level of coverage without it being part of contract negotiations.

Mr. Sobotka asked what it is going to cost the average home owner and Mr. McDaniel responded that we could save that question for the Auditor next week.

REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mr. McDaniel asked about the dog licenses and do we monitor the dogs that are not renewed. Ms. Clayton responded that we can run a report of unrenewed licenses and they are either addressed during the dog census or by the animal control officer.

Council agreed to hold the reports until next meeting.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mr. Sobotka made a motion seconded by Mr. Hlubik to hold the reports until next week. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

2. Mr. McDaniel stated that Mr. Keller, Mr. Frank and himself met with some representatives of the County regarding the intersection in Jobstown and they seemed to be moving forward on that and we might see some movement sometime next year.

Mr. McDaniel stated that they also discussed Mt. Pleasant Rd. and they will not take that road over. Mr. McDaniel added that the County has a contract for shared service for road repair that Springfield would be first in line to participate in. Mr. Keller explained that we will not have to do any Engineering or project management and it would be a milling and overlay program. Mr. McDaniel stated that this program would not work well on roads like Smithville

since there are drainage problems that exist but it would work on Mt. Pleasant Rd. Mr. Hlubik asked about the cost savings and Mr. Keller responded that we would save Engineering and project management costs. Mr. Sobotka asked about bonding and Mr. Keller stated that we would still get a maintenance bond but he will confirm that before we move forward. Mr. Keller stated we could add Arneys Mt. Rd. as well.

Mr. McDaniel asked about the repairs to Jobstown-Juliustown Rd and Mr. Keller responded that the contractor should be out sometime soon.

Mr. Sobotka asked the Manager to ask about the path at Juliustown Park and Mr. Keller responded that the Engineer did not have an answer yet. Mr. Sobotka also wanted to know what the cost would be to pave the old tennis court and turn it into a basketball court and Mr. Keller responded \$50,000.00 and Mr. Sobotka asked about just paving with no lining and Mr. Keller responded the cost may go down about \$20,000.

Mr. Sobotka asked who would be supervising the road repairs on Jobstown-Juliustown Rd. and Mr. McDaniel responded that it would be the same Engineer. Mr. Keller added that we have a year maintenance bond if any other issues come up. Mr. Hlubik asked if they do core testing on the road when they pave and Mr. Keller responded that when they get a state grant they have to do the coring like on Columbus-Jobstown Rd. but he does not believe it was called for in the specs for this projects. Mr. Hlubik thought maybe they should take coring for the portion paved. Mr. McDaniel asked when Mr. Guzzi would be in for the new road project and Mr. Keller responded not until next month so if Council has concerns he could come to next month.

Mr. McDaniel asked what work was being done at the bike path and Mr. Keller stated that we had to put in a pipe because the water was flowing over the path. Mr. Keller stated that Mr. Richter did not put it in the specs because he did not think it would be a problem and he thought it would be a maintenance problem to keep the drain cleared.

Mr. McDaniel stated that they also discussed the speed at the Jacksonville intersection and Mr. Keller is working with the County on that issue.

Mr. McDaniel stated that the County said they would be out this summer to fix the Saylor's Pond Rd. Bridge.

Mr. McDaniel stated they also asked about the Island Rd. Bridge and the County did not seem to know who closed the bridge and Mr. Keller added that the County Engineering Dept. closed the bridge. Mr. McDaniel stated the plan is to close that road permanently with the exception of emergency vehicles and farming equipment. He added that they would have a turn around on each side of the bridge so vehicles could turn around. Mr. Hlubik asked if they cannot get a permit from the DEP to do a bike path over that creek how are they going to get a permit to do a turnaround big enough for a truck. Mr. Keller stated that he thinks they will end up fixing the bridge

Mr. Hlubik asked if we will have the bid specs for the roads for next month and Mr. Keller responded that no probably just the preliminary plan.

TOWNSHIP OFFICIAL'S BUSINESS

Mr. Sobotka made a motion seconded by Mr. Hlubik to approve the Springfield Home and School Association Raffle license. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Keller stated every year we must sign a safety agreement and we must have it on the agenda. Mr. Keller added that we really don't have any issue with safety. He added that we inspect the buildings and parks on a regular basis.

Mr. Sobotka asked if we are looking at our officers and their health in light of a recent event in a neighboring town where a 25 year old officer had a heart attack and Mr. Keller responded that we do not. Mr. Keller stated we do have a wellness person through the JIF and they can come in and discuss health issues with the officers but we may end up paying overtime. Mr. Keller stated that he will see if they have a disc or video that could be watched and each officer sign off that they have viewed the video.

Mr. McDaniel stated that he has an issue with food handler licenses. His problem is due to the fact the license is good for one location and now that we have a couple venues in the town certain vendors have to pay for a license fee for each location. Mr. Sobotka did not feel that the cost of paying the attorney to review and change the Ordinance is worth it to appease on person. He also stated that there are concerns with health and vehicle safety on food trucks.

Mr. McDaniel stated that the Supreme Court punted COAH back to the Superior Court which is where we already have our action. Mr. Sobotka asked about the two properties and where we are with that. Mr. Keller stated that we were waiting for the agreement with Habitat to be signed before making an offer. Mr. Sobotka asked how will the 90 days effect our progress and Mr. McDaniel responded that the Judge has been happy with us so far in what we are trying to do. Mr. McDaniel added that we are still pursuing some environmental issues at the locations. Mr. McDaniel stated that we cannot make an offer until we have an environmental and a septic report. Mr. Sobotka would like a timeline set to secure our position with the Courts. Mr. Keller stated that the next step is to get the contract back from Habitat and Mr. Guest will be here next week and Council can ask him then.

Mr. McDaniel asked Mr. Sobotka about Memorial Day and Mr. Sobotka responded that he spoke to Ed Boise and he will be handling it. Mr. McDaniel asked if he had already spoken to Mr. Boise and Mr. Sobotka responded that he had and Mr. Boise is planning to do something for that event but he hasn't gotten back to him with details.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Hearing no one for comment, 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. Hlubik to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Clayton
Township Clerk