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**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

**MARCH 5, 2024**

**Present:**  Supervisors Tim Stiffy, Marcus Kohan, Joe Mattace. Also present was Jim Naret (Gateway Engineers), Road Foreman Jim Knight and Township Administrator Lucinda G. Lipko.

**Also Present:**  Jason Schepp, Sara Keck, Matt Schepp, Ann Coleman, Bruce Hague, Lorrie Hague, Daniel Hutchins (Chief of Fire Dept.) and Alan “Pete” Dickson (Fire Dept.).

**Call to Order**:  The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Tim Stiffy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Additions or Deletions**:  None

**Public Comment**:  None

**Administration and Finance:**

A motion was made by Joe Mattace to approve sending a letter and reimbursing the grant money to the Conservation District Dirt and Gravel Road Program subject to a reduction for the township engineering fees for the project. Seconded by Marcus Kohan, motion carried.

**Zoning and Land Development:**

There were two building permits and one occupancy permit issued in February 2024.

**Sewer and Water:**

Jim Knight reported he received an email from Dan Goncz asking when our flow meter was calibrated. The last time was in 2017 as they are not calibrated unless there is a problem. Jim thinks it would be a good idea to get on a maintenance program, so he has called HCS (Wagner Electric) for a quote.

**Roads and Bridges:**

Jim has a meeting this Friday to get a quote on raising the end of Spring Road. There was also an accident at the bridge on Creek Road with damage to the bridge. Jim notified the County Bridge Department as the bridge is owned by them.

**Engineer’s Report:**

Jim Naret reported the following:

* Schepp Holdings Taekwondo Studio submitted Conditional Use and Land Development applications in the Agricultural Zoning District to the Planning Commission, at their February 26th meeting, which were recommended to the Supervisors for approval, with conditions: response to the Gateway letter dated February 21st: posting of a performance bond: and a recommendation to the Supervisors for the applicant not to install sidewalks across the frontage of the property. Schepp Holdings stated they will note on their plans that if sidewalks are extended to the property in the future, they will install sidewalks across their frontage.
* PennDOT is scheduled to issue the Notice to Proceed on March 4th for the Route 208 Multimodal Trail.
* Bids were opened on February 8th for the ARLE Grant Signal Design and the low bidder was Bruce & Merrilees at $ 398,492.59. Supervisors awarded the bid at their February 19th meeting.
* Gateway is preparing the construction bid package for the sanitary sewer repairs and the pump stations upgrades.
* Gateway had started the preparation of the construction plans and bid packages for the Phase 3 Trail Project until the township was notified, we would need easements from Wendall August and Crombie properties. This process was put on hold until the easements have been obtained.

**Fire Department:**

Chief Hutchins reported they responded to ten calls with a total of 43-man hours and 55 hours of training and an average of 4.7 people per call. Pete Dickson requested we put up a 50-foot tower here at the Township Building for the early warning system. He was told to contact the airport for permission as we are in the airport overlay district.

**Public Works Report:**

Jim Knight reported on the following:

* + Are cleaning the ditch lines with the Tagger ditcher attachment.
  + Discussed the agility work plan with PennDOT.
  + Patched potholes on West Bottle Hill Road and a tree fell, which the phone company removed.
  + Working at putting costs together for Spring Road and met with Braden Byler, who offered to purchase the 2A stone for the west side where it is breaking apart.

**Reports:**

Supervisor Stiffy has been attending most of the March schools at the Penn State Agricultural Building every Thursday this month.

Supervisor Kohan is concerned about protecting residents from squatters’ rights. The only way to get them evicted is by filing a trespassing claim against them.

**Correspondence:** None

**Public Comment:**

Jason Schepp applied for permits in August 2023 for their building. Thought they would be getting approval by the Supervisor’s tonight. Need to have a packet that outlines the process when applying for building permits. The Supervisors gave them verbal permission to clean up an acre of property only.

Ann Coleman, County Commissioner, talked about the reassessment going on in Mercer County, urging residents to allow them to measure so the information is accurate. Or you can measure yourself and turn in the information. Springfield will be at the end of the line for reassessment.

She appreciates we are handing in our building permits to the county monthly.

Supervisor Stiffy requested the county do something about the solar farm contracts that do not address their life expectancy and what happens to the left-over equipment. Contracts need to address who the equipment is disposed of.

Laurie Hague is concerned with the amount of trash and junk that is accumulating around two houses on Rt. 19. Supervisor Mattace will get the addresses for the township.

**Executive Session:** None

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Marcus Kohan to adjourn. Seconded by Joe Mattace, motion carried.

The Springfield Township Board of Supervisors adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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Lucinda G. Lipko, Secretary