

**SPRINGETTSBURY/SPRING GARDEN TOWNSHIPS
JOINT FIRE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**JULY 18, 2006
APPROVED**

Springettsbury and Spring Garden Townships Joint Fire Services Committee convened on Tuesday, July 18, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Springettsbury Township offices located at 1501 Mt. Zion Road, York, PA.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Austin Hunt, Spring Garden Township
Jon Countess, Spring Garden Township
Ellen Freireich, Springettsbury Township
Holly Gumke, Spring Garden Township
Todd Langeheine, Springettsbury Township
Bill Mader, Spring Garden Township
John Fullmer, Jr., Spring Garden Township
Tom Englerth, Spring Garden Township

**MEMBERS NOT
IN ATTENDANCE:** Bill Schenck, Springettsbury Township
Don Bishop, Springettsbury Township

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: John Holman, Springettsbury Township Manager
Greg Maust, Spring Garden Township Manager
Andrew Stern, Springettsbury Township, Director, Fire Dept.
Barry Emig, Spring Garden Township, Fire Chief
Scott Curtis, Spring Garden Township/Grantley Fire Co.
Bob Astor, STVFC, Springettsbury Township

A. Call to Order

HUNT Chairman Hunt called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

HUNT Chairman Hunt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Determination of Voting Quorum

HOLMAN Mr. Holman stated that a Quorum was present with Holly Gumke, Austin Hunt, Jon Countess, Ellen Freireich and Thomas Englerth. Messrs. Mader and Langeheine serve as Alternates. Mr. Schenck sent his regrets as he was out of town. Mr. Bishop was uncertain as to whether he could attend due to previous commitments.

D. Approval of Meeting Minutes: June 20, 2006

MR. COUNTESS MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 20, 2006 AS SUBMITTED. MRS. FREIREICH WAS SECOND. MOTION CARRIED

E. Public Participation: Comments from the Public

There were no Public Comments.

F. Correspondence and Other Communications

HOLMAN Mr. Holman stated that a thank you letter had been sent to each of the three County Commissioners on behalf of the committee and the townships for the award of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Grant.

G. Grant Application Status

1. DCED Legislative Shared Municipal Service Program Grant

MAUST Mr. Maust reported that a letter had been received in his office advising that the grant request was approved, not in the full amount that had been requested, but in the amount of \$30,000 according to Senator Mike Waugh's office. This was made up by having \$15,000 provided through Senator Waugh's office and \$15,000 from Senator Armstrong's office. During a previous meeting with them they had jointly supported the request. Mr. Maust reported he had not received the final terms and conditions of the grant to date; however, the additional funding support definitely will be used going forward in matching up with the obligations.

HUNT Chairman Hunt asked Mr. Maust to state the targeted expenses for the grant.

MAUST Mr. Maust responded that it would cover ongoing support for legal, actuarial, and professional services to support the economic aspects.

HOLMAN Mr. Holman stated that if the \$30,000 grant is combined with the DCED grant for Buracker and Associates for the economic study, those two provides a total of \$75,000 to move forward, and with the additional \$15,000 from York County totals \$90,000, it is outstanding support from both the county and the state to help get this project done. Mr. Holman added that that particular grant will come through Spring Garden.

MAUST Mr. Maust indicated that the funding will carry the project through. He stated that Spring Garden took the lead on this on behalf of the Committee.

HUNT Chairman Hunt requested that both Township Managers draft a thank you letter to both Senator Waugh and Senator Armstrong.

H. Update from Staff/Consultant

1. Staff Update

HOLMAN Mr. Holman indicated that his staff update information would be provided under the Identification Package Update.

HUNT Chairman Hunt asked for information on the meetings being held with the associations. He explained for the committee that the two labor associations had begun preliminary, non-binding discussions to investigate contract issues.

HOLMAN Mr. Holman responded that they had put together and reviewed a comparison of all health benefit plans in order to have a side-by-side review. They are expecting a cost analysis of future actuarial costs for pensions, at which time another meeting will be scheduled. He expected they would meet monthly as information becomes available, which will enable everyone to have the same basic information and facts with regard to some of the general issues to be discussed.

COUNTESS Mr. Countess indicated that his subcommittee responsibility was pension issues, and he had initially contacted the Tom Zimmerman at Conrad Siegel's office.

HOLMAN Mr. Holman responded that Mr. Zimmerman and the Spring Garden representative together are in the process of preparing the detailed cost analysis.

COUNTESS Mr. Countess asked whether they would have to have a bid contract for those services.

HOLMAN Mr. Holman responded that both municipalities have contracts with Conrad Siegel for professional services. The initial cost will be absorbed by the municipalities, but everything else will be covered in the grant.

HUNT Chairman Hunt commented that he understood that the discussions had been open and very fruitful.

HOLMAN Mr. Holman responded that they had been. He thought it was the first time any of them had met in this kind of an environment. They are all learning to work their way through the process.

2. Consultant Update

ADAMS Mr. Adams reported the status of the work, which actually was ahead of schedule. He stated that he had nearly completed all the interviews with most of the elected officials and most of the committee members. He met with the Mayor of the City of York and with the Chair of the County Commissioners. In addition, he had moved deeply into the report writing and data analysis; as he goes along he will pick up the few remaining interviews.

HUNT Chairman Hunt stated that he understood Mr. Adams would be meeting later this date with the volunteers.

- ADAMS** Mr. Adams responded that he was correct; a follow-up meeting with the volunteers at their request.
- HOLMAN** Mr. Holman mentioned that Mr. Adams met with the Superintendents of both school districts.
- ADAMS** Mr. Adams indicated that he also met with the three regional Police Chiefs to get a background on how they operate, how they were organized and obtain as much information as he could.
- HUNT** Chairman Hunt asked whether he, personally, had done any previous projects on police regionalization.
- ADAMS** Mr. Adams responded that he had not; he thought Pennsylvania was ahead of the curve on police consolidations and regionalization.
- HUNT** Chairman Hunt noted that York County is leading the Pennsylvania curve.
- ADAMS** Mr. Adams noted that there are 36 regional police departments, which he indicated was fairly unheard of nationally.
- HUNT** Chairman Hunt added that Pennsylvania started a very fertile area of regionalization with the lowest average number of officers per department, which was about six because there were so many small police departments.
- ADAMS** Mr. Adams stated that the Chiefs were very open, and one of them had completed a 10-year assessment and which he obtained a copy of what they learned from the first 10 years.
- COUNTESS** Mr. Countess asked what Mayor John Brenner's reaction was to the concept.
- ADAMS** Mr. Adams responded that he basically indicated he was ready to talk any time the two townships were ready. He spoke about the Relief Association and provided a lot of thoughts about that. It was a good discussion with no surprises.
- HUNT** Chairman Hunt asked what his new target date might be, since he was ahead of schedule.
- ADAMS** Mr. Adams responded about the end of August, but as the date gets closer, he would have a better idea.

I. Old Business

1. Status of Draft Charter Agreement

HUNT Chairman Hunt stated that there had been no update on the status of the draft charter agreement. It had been submitted as material for Mr. Adams to use or revise.

2. Identification Package Update

HUNT Chairman Hunt asked for an update on the Identification Package project with Bradley Academy.

HOLMAN Mr. Holman responded that a meeting had been held with Bradley Academy earlier this date. Included in the meeting were Barry Emig, Andrew Stern, Greg Maust and himself. Attendees from Bradley Academy were Miss Sandra Roberts and two other gentlemen. They discussed what the Committee would like done and how Bradley sees meeting what was requested, which is an identification package for the new organization. Bradley recommended how they will move forward with this project in a three-step process: (1) They will create several choices of names for the Committee for the August meeting. (2) In addition they will begin developing a logo, which will be completed once the name is identified. (3) Following that they will move forward with the implementation package which will include all the specifications for the logos, the colors, what a patch or a flag would look like, what the thread count should be, what the colors should be in the patch, dimensions, etc. They expect to have all that finished by September to October. He and Mr. Maust helped facilitate the meeting; however, the ensuing meetings will be handled by Mr. Stern and Chief Emig, representatives of the bargaining units and the volunteers will meet with the students. Students will visit the fire houses. Two of their top students were assigned to this job, along with a class. All of this will be coordinated with Ms. Amspacher. They want to remember the history but look toward the future, which may not just include Springettsbury and Spring Garden. They were encouraged to think outside the box.

HUNT Chairman Hunt stated for clarification that their recommendations will come before the Committee in August. He asked how Mr. Holman visualized that being forwarded to the ultimate decision-making bodies.

HOLMAN Mr. Holman responded that he anticipated it would be provided to the Committee as part of their package, and they will have time to review the names before the meeting. Upon agreement, the name would be passed to the respective governing bodies for their vote.

MAUST Mr. Maust commented that he was encouraged since they had done this type of project before. They were indicating that it would be one basic logo for vehicles, letterhead, name cards, patches, etc. which would set the identity of the group.

HOLMAN Mr. Holman added that this project will be included with their logo graphics design program that they teach where they do come up with company logos, designs, names, and advertising.

HUNT Chairman Hunt asked whether there would be a professor or a teacher involved in the project.

MAUST Mr. Maust responded that they met with all three teachers, who will have some involvement in setting the direction.

FREIREICH Mrs. Freireich stated that Bradley actually designed one of the logos for one of the NASA crews that went into space. They are experienced in this process. They can go from one medium to the other and provided whatever is necessary to make those transitions.

J. New Business

There was no New Business for discussion.

K. Committee Resolutions

There were none for action.

L. Adjournment

HUNT Chairman Hunt commented that if Bradley has name options, there will be a meeting in August.

HOLMAN Mr. Holman stated that Bradley should be ready with a full PowerPoint presentation for the August meeting. Otherwise the next meeting would move to September, at which time the final report from Buracker might be available.

HOLMAN Mr. Holman suggested that the committee make a recommendation that Spring Garden Township accept the grant when the contract is received, which should be in the next couple of weeks.

MR. COUNTESS MOVED TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE SPRING GARDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD THAT THEY ACCEPT THE \$30,000 GRANT AS AWARDED. MRS. FREIREICH WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MAUST Mr. Maust stated that the item would be placed on their August Agenda.

HOLMAN Mr. Holman noted that during the August meeting, they will provide much more detail of what the grant is allowed to do.

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HUNT Chairman Hunt adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Holman
Secretary

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