

SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
October 20, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.
Solebury Township Hall

MINUTES

Attendance: Paul Cosdon, Chair, James Searing, Vice-chair, Robert Heath, Jr., Edward McGahan, Jr. and Helen Tai. Dennis H. Carney, Manager, Gretchen K. Rice, Assistant Manager, Jonathan J. Reiss, Solicitor and C. Robert Wynn, Township Engineer, were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Bills Payable

Res. 2015-133 – Upon a motion by Mr. Searing, seconded by Ms. Tai, the list of Bills Payable dated October 15, 2015 was unanimously approved as prepared and posted.

The Chair requested the administration to provide the total of invoices paid in 2015 to Offit Kurman for labor expenses.

Approval of Minutes:

The Board directed the DEP presentation be attached to the August 19th Minutes.

Res. 2015-134 – Upon a motion by Mr. Searing, seconded by Ms. Tai, the Minutes of the DEP Meeting held August 19, 2015 were approved as written and posted with attachment as noted.

Abstaining: Mr. Cosdon and Mr. Heath due to absence from meeting.

Res. 2015-135 – Upon a motion by Ms. Tai, seconded by Mr. McGahan, the Minutes of October 6, 2015 were unanimously approved as written and posted.

Announcements/Resignations/Appointments

- The Board announced an executive session held prior to the meeting related to personnel and legal matters.

Supervisor Comment

- Mr. Heath raised concern related to the North Wales Water Authority purchasing multiple systems within the Township and suggested that the Township Ordinances be reviewed to ensure that they contain everything possible to protect the water resources within the Township.

- Mr. McGahan noted the candidate debate scheduled to take place at the Audubon Society at 7:30 on Thursday, October 22nd.

Public Comment – no early public comment was offered.

PUBLIC HEARING - HARB – Kenneth Wiseman, 3655 Aquetong Road, TMP 41-002-044 – The applicant proposes to install a 3' high picket fence out of cedar and painted #313-3, Jewel of the Nile in color to match existing shutters. The Historical Architectural Review Board has reviewed the application and recommended a Certificate of Appropriateness be issued.

Res. 2015-136 – Upon a motion by Ms. Tai, seconded by Mr. McGahan, it was unanimously agreed to authorize issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness to TMP 41-002-044 for installation of a picket fence as recommended by the Historical Architectural Review Board held November 2, 2015. Issuance of this Certificate of Appropriateness does not relieve the applicant from obtaining any and all applicable permits.

PUBLIC HEARING - Clymer Conditional Use No. 15-2 – The applicants were present with their counsel, Paul Cohen, Esquire, and consultants, Ralph Fey, Architect and Adam Crews, PLS. A court stenographer was present to record the testimony.

Following testimony by the applicant, and the applicants' architect and surveyor, the hearing was continued to November 5, 2015.

PUBLIC HEARING - Traffic Ordinance Amendment – The Board previously authorized two amendments to the Traffic Ordinance, one to establish a 35 mph speed on Reeder Road between Stoney Hill and Route 202, and the second to establish a multi-way stop condition at Street Road, Lower Mountain Road and Pineville Road. The Ordinance amendment has been advertised for adoption at this meeting.

Res. 2015-137 – Upon a motion by Ms. Tai, seconded by Mr. McGahan, it was unanimously agreed to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 2015-009, AN ORDINANCE OF THE SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AMENDING SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE NO. 2012-003, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 201.A ESTABLISHING A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ON REEDER ROAD AND CHAPTER 3, SECTION 309.A ESTABLISHING A FIVE-WAY STOP SIGN ON STREET ROAD AT THE INTERSECTION OF LOWER MOUNTAIN ROAD AND PINEVILLE ROAD, AND AUTHORIZING INSTALLATION OF SPEED LIMIT SIGNS AND STOP SIGNS, as advertised.

OLD BUSINESS

Police Contract – The Collective Bargaining Agreement between Solebury Township and the Police Department has been ratified and executed by the Solebury Township Police PBA. The Administration recommended that the Board execute the Agreement covering the contract period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

Res. 2015-138 – Upon a motion by Mr. Searing, seconded by Mr. Heath, it was unanimously agreed to authorize execution of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Solebury Township and Solebury Township Police Benevolent Association covering the term January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

The Board thanked the Township Manager for his work in negotiating with the Police PBA resulting in substantial savings to the Township by avoiding legal expenses that would have been required had arbitration been required.

NEW BUSINESS

ZHB – Mary Crawford, 6509 Saw Mill, TMP 41-002-061-001 – Ms. Crawford has filed an appeal to the Zoning Hearing Board from an Enforcement Notice and denial of building permit.

Res. 2015-139 – Upon a motion by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. McGahan, it was unanimously agreed to authorize the Township Solicitor to attend the Zoning Hearing Board hearings scheduled on the appeal of Mary Crawford on behalf of the Township.

North Wales Water Authority – The Board continued the earlier discussion related to the North Wales Water Authority purchase of water systems within the Township. The Township Engineer, Solicitor and Township Manager were directed to review the Township ordinances to determine if they are sufficient to protect the interests of the Township and advise the Board of any deficiencies noted that might undermine the Township's ability to protect its water resources.

SALDO – Off-site planting of trees – The Board has been advised that off-site tree replacement regulations in the current SALDO were found to be illegal by the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court in 2004 and invalid under the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code. The Solicitor has recommended that the SALDO be revised to remove the reference to off-site replacement and just require replacement trees or a fee in lieu thereof.

Res. 2015-140 – Upon a motion by Mr. Searing, seconded by Ms. Tai, it was unanimously agreed to direct the Township Solicitor to draft an amendment to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance Article 5, Section 5.20.M.3 by removing the option of allowing for planting of replacement trees off-site at locations provided by the Township.

Public Comment – No public comment was offered.

Adjournment

Res. 2015-141 – Upon a motion by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. McGahan, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Gretchen K. Rice
Assistant Manager
Secretary/Treasurer