

SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
January 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.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance the meeting was called to order.

Approval of Bills Payable

Res. 2015-20 – Upon a motion by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. McGahan, the lists of Bills Payable dated January 2, 2015 and January 15, 2015 were unanimously approved as prepared and posted.

Approval of Minutes

Res. 2015-21 – Upon a motion by Mr. Heath, seconded by Ms. Tai, the Minutes of December 16, 2014 were unanimously approved as written and posted.

Res. 2015-22 – Upon a motion by Ms. Tai, seconded by Mr. Searing, the Minutes of January 5, 2015 were unanimously approved as written and posted.

Announcements/Resignations/Appointments

- The Board announced executive sessions held on January 14th and January 20th regarding personnel issues.
- The Chair announced the following Supervisor Liaison assignments for 2015:

Land Preservation	-	Paul Cosdon
Parks & Recreation	-	Helen Tai
Environmental Advisory Council	-	James Searing
Historical Architectural Review Board	-	Edward McGahan, Jr.
Planning Commission	-	Robert Heath, Jr.

•The Chair announced that the Free Library of New Hope-Solebury received a \$72,000 Keystone Recreation Park and Conservation Fund grant to help pay for repairs and upgrades to the library building.

•The Chair announced the upcoming Lambertville-New Hope Winterfest activities.

Res. 2015-23 – Upon a motion by Mr. Cosdon, seconded by Mr. McGahan, it was unanimously agreed to appoint Lori High and James Trammell to the Board of Parks and Recreation for five year terms expiring December 31, 2019.

Supervisor Comments

- The Chair announced that a letter to the Editor will be sent to the Bucks County Herald in response to a letter published in the last edition regarding the preservation of Marion Farms.

Public Comment – No early public comment was offered.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Floodplain Ordinance – The hearing was opened by the Chair and a brief explanation of the Ordinance under consideration was provided by the Township Engineer. Following Board discussion and opportunity for public comment the hearing was closed.

Res. 2015-24 – Upon a motion by Ms. Tai, seconded by Mr. Heath, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-002, AN ORDINANCE OF SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP REQUIRING ALL PERSONS, PARTNERSHIPS, BUSINESSES, AND CORPORATIONS TO OBTAIN A PERMIT FOR ANY CONSTRUCTION OR DEVELOPMENT WITHIN A FLOODPLAIN; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH PERMITS; SETTING FORTH CERTAIN MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT WITHIN AREAS OF SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO FLOODING; AND ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR ANY PERSONS WHO FAIL, OR REFUSE TO COMPLY WITH, THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ORDINANCE, as advertised.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment – The hearing was opened by the Chair and a brief explanation of the Ordinance under consideration was provided. Following discussion by Board members and opportunity for public comment, the hearing was closed.

Res. 2015-25 – Upon a motion by Mr. McGahan, seconded by Ms. Tai, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-003, AN ORDINANCE OF SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, TO DELETE THE DEFINITION OF FLOODPLAIN SOILS, ADD A DEFINITION FOR “SOILS ON FLOODPLAINS”, AND REVISE THE FLOODPLAIN CONSERVATION DISTRICT TO REFERENCE THE CURRENT FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS, as advertised.

Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance Amendment – The hearing was opened by the Chair and a brief explanation of the Ordinance under consideration was provided. Following discussion by the Board members and opportunity for public comment, the hearing was closed.

Res. 2015-26 – Upon a motion by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. McGahan, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-004, AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOLEBURY, BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE TO REVISE THE DEFINITION OF FLOODPLAIN, DELETE DEFINITIONS FOR FLOODPLAIN DISTRICT AND FLOODPLAIN SOILS, ADD DEFINITIONS FOR FLOODPLAIN CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND SOILS ON FLOODPLAINS, AND TO REVISE THE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR AN EXISTING RESOURCES AND SITE ANALYSIS PLAN TO INCLUDE FLOODPLAIN AS DETERMINED BY THE FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCE, as advertised.

Unemployment Compensation Ordinance – The hearing was opened by the Chair and a brief explanation of the Ordinance under consideration was provided. Following discussion by the Board members and opportunity for public comment, the hearing was closed.

Res. 2015-27 – Upon a motion by Ms. Tai, seconded by Mr. Searing, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-005, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PARTICIPATION OF SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP IN THE PSATS UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION GROUP TRUST PURSUANT TO THE PENNSYLVANIA INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION LAW, as advertised.

Stormwater Contribution Ordinance - The hearing was opened by the Chair and a brief explanation of the Ordinance under consideration was provided. Following discussion by the Board members and opportunity for public comment, the hearing was closed.

Res. 2015-28 – Upon a motion by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. McGahan, it was unanimously agreed to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-006, AN ORDINANCE OF THE SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP OF SOLEBURY SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE ADDING A REQUIREMENT FOR A STORMWATER CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION TO BE PAID TO THE TOWNSHIP WHEN AN APPLICATION REQUESTS THE TOWNSHIP TO ACT AS AN APPLICANT OR CO-APPLICANT FOR A PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (“PENNDOT”) HIGHWAY OCCUPANCY PERMIT OR SIGN A PENNDOT CONDITION STATEMENT, as advertised.

OLD BUSINESS – No old business came before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

2015 Road Program – The Administration has requested authorization to bid the 2015 Road Program including Seal Coat, Tar & Chip, Crack Sealing, Mill and Wearing Course for Township roads as discussed during the 2015 Budget meetings.

Res. 2015-29 – Upon a motion by Ms. Tai, seconded by Mr. Heath, it was unanimously agreed to authorize the Township Administration to advertise for bids to accomplish the 2015 Road Program to include Seal Coat, Tar & Chip, Crack Sealing and Mill and Wearing Course.

2015 Fee Schedule Amendment – As a result of the Ordinances adopted earlier in the meeting, the Fee Schedule adopted on January 5th requires amendment to provide for a Floodplain Permit and associated escrow.

Res. 2015-30 – Upon a motion by Mr. McGahan, seconded by Ms. Tai, it was unanimously agreed to amend the 2015 Fee Schedule to include the following:

“FLOODPLAIN PERMIT

Non-refundable Filing Fee:	\$100.00
And Professional Services Agreement w/ Escrow:	\$2500.00”

PennEAST Pipeline Project – Mr. Cosdon had submitted a conflict of interest statement regarding this topic to the Secretary. At this time Mr. Cosdon turned the meeting over to the Vice-chair and excused himself from the meeting room.

While the proposed path of the pipeline does not physically impact Solebury Township, members of the Board requested a public discussion on the topic including the possibility of adopting a position in opposition to the project and communicating that opposition to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Ms. Tai provided a Resolution in opposition to the project for the Board's consideration.

Following comment from the Supervisors, Bill Tinsman, Kevin Morrissey, Barry Fetterolf, David Benner and Tim Luccaro, all of Solebury Township, and Tina Venini of Durham Township voiced their support of the Resolution opposing the project.

Res. 2015-31 – Upon a motion by Ms. Tai, seconded by Mr. Heath, it was unanimously agreed to adopt A RESOLUTION OF THE SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO OPPOSE THE PENNEAST PIPELINE, as drafted.

At this time Mr. Cosdon returned and the Vice-chair turned the meeting back to the Chair.

SUBDIVISIONS/LAND DEVELOPMENTS/CONDITIONAL USES – No applications came before the Board.

Public Comment

- Mr. Tinsman noted that FERC had scheduled a scoping meeting for January 28th at the Bucks County Community College regarding the PennEAST Pipeline Project.
- Mr. Tinsman inquired as to the status of the Fleecydale Road project.
- Mr. Benner expressed his concern regarding the condition of Route 263 in front of his home.
- At Mr. Searing's suggestion, the Board requested the Administration to compile a list of the ten most urgent issues regarding state roads in Solebury Township.

Adjournment

Res. 2015-32 – Upon a motion by Mr. McGahan, seconded by Mr. Heath, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen K. Rice
Assistant Manager
Secretary/Treasurer

