

SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
November 18, 2014 – 7:00 P.M.
Solebury Township Hall

MINUTES

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

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

Approval of Bills Payable – November 13, 2014

Res. 2014-169 – Upon a motion by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. McGahan, the list of Bills Payable dated November 13, 2014 was unanimously approved as prepared and posted.

Approval of Minutes

Res. 2014-170 – Upon a motion by Mr. McGahan, seconded by Mr. Cosdon, the Minutes of the November 6, 2014 Budget Work Session were approved as written and posted.

Abstaining: Robert Heath, Jr., due to absence from the work session.

Res. 2014-171 – Upon a motion by Mr. Cosdon, seconded by Mr. McGahan, the Minutes of the November 6, 2014 Meeting were approved as corrected.

Abstaining: Robert Heath, Jr., due to absence from the meeting.

Mr. Cosdon stated that if someone were to read the minutes of the regular November 6th meeting, it might appear that a \$30,000 amount was authorized for the library plus an increase of .125 mils. He asked that tonight's Minutes state for clarification purposes, that the total 2015 millage for the library is to be .375 and 1.75 for fire service.

Announcements

- The Board announced an Executive Session held prior to the meeting regarding litigation and land preservation;
- The Board announced anticipated steps by PennDOT to address safety issues along Route 202 between Street Road and Sugan Road;
- The Chair made note of upcoming road closures to accommodate the Girls on the Run event;
- The Chair noted new signage at Ingham Spring Park;
- The Chair stated that he would be creating a red-line version of the Oct. 15th Minutes of the meeting with DEP for consideration by the Board to approve on December 16th.

Public Comment

- Dudley Rice, P&R Director, addressed the Board on the recent passing of Michele Smyser, one of the earliest members of the Township Park and Recreation Board.

OLD BUSINESS – No old business came before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

ZHB Application of Benjamin Miller, TMP 44-022-056 - The applicant is proposing the remediation and/or rehabilitation of an existing deteriorated dam and associated spillway as mandated by the PA Department of Environmental Protection. The applicant is seeking relief from various Zoning Ordinance regulations required to accomplish the work as mandated by DEP.

Res. 2014-172 – Upon a motion by Mr. Heath, seconded by Ms. Tai, it was agreed to authorize the Township Solicitor to attend the Zoning Hearing on the application filed by Benjamin Miller regarding TMP 44-022-056, on behalf of the Township to oppose the relief requested under items 4.b.c. and f. as listed in the Outline of Relief Requested submitted with the Zoning Hearing Application.

Abstaining: Mr. McGahan due to a conflict of interest.

LPC – Johnson Agreement of Sale - On November 7, 2013 the Board approved an offer of \$4,000 per acre to purchase a conservation easement on the 28.28 acre Johnson property in a joint venture with the Bucks County Agricultural Program who offered \$9,000 per acre. The Johnsons have accepted both the Township's offer and the County's offer and the project is expected to close in the next 60 days.

Res. 2014-173 – Upon a motion by Mr. Cosdon, seconded by Mr. McGahan, it was unanimously agreed to authorize the appropriate Township Officials to execute the Agreement of Sale with Philip and Joy N. Johnson in the amount of \$113,120 for the purchase of a Conservation Easement on 28.28 acres situated at 6004 Stony Hill Road.

Ingham Spring Dam Breach – Authorization to Advertise Bids – The Army Corp has stated its willingness to sign off on the project and the Township anticipates receiving the letter of authorization to proceed with the dam breach project very soon.

Res. 2014-174 – Upon a motion by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. McGahan, it was unanimously agreed to authorize the Township Administration to advertise for bids the Ingham Spring Dam Breach project.

2015 Meeting Dates

Res. 2014-175 – Upon a motion by Mr. McGahan, seconded by Mr. Heath, it was unanimously agreed to approve the Solebury Township Meeting Dates for 2015 as follows:

January 5 & 20; February 3 & 17; March 3 & 17; April 7 & 21; May 5 & 19; June 16; July 21; August 18; September 1 & 15; October 6 & 20; November 5 & 17 and December 15.

Municipalities Continuing Disclosure Cooperation Initiative Resolution - By adopting this Resolution and participating in the SEC's voluntary self-reporting MCDC Initiative, the Township will address the requirements for on-going continuing disclosure related to past and any future bond issues.

Res. 2014-176 – Upon a motion by Mr. McGahan, seconded by Mr. Cosdon, it was unanimously agreed to adopt a RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF SOLEBURY (THE “TOWNSHIP”) TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SEC’S VOLUNTARY SELF-REPORTING MCDC INITIATIVE AND TO TAKE SUCH FURTHER ACTION AS IS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS RESOLUTION.

SUBDIVISIONS/LAND DEVELOPMENTS/CONDITIONAL USES – No applications were reviewed by the Board.

Public Comment

- Mr. McGahan addressed his fellow Board members with suggestions concerning transparency in the budget process.

Adjournment

Res. 2014-177 – Upon a motion by Ms. Tai, seconded by Mr. McGahan, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Gretchen K. Rice
Assistant Manager
Secretary/Treasurer