

**SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**October 17, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.**  
**Solebury Township Hall**

**WORK SESSION**  
**Re: Aquetong Creek Restoration Project**

Attendance: Helen Tai, Chair, James Searing, Vice-chair, Noel Barrett, Paul Cosdon and Kevin Morrissey. Dennis H. Carney, Manager, Gretchen K. Rice, Assistant Manager, C. Robert Wynn, Township Engineer were present. ASAC members Barry Fetterolf, Michael Zolkewitz, Frank Nassetta were also in attendance. Resident Les Isbrandt were also in attendance.

The Aquetong Spring Advisory Committee had reviewed six RFPs submitted for the environmental assessment and recommendation for the Aquetong Creek Restoration Project and recommended the Township accept the proposal submitted by Princeton Hydro of Ringoes, NJ.

The work session was scheduled so that the Board of Supervisors could better understand how the ASAC arrived at its selection of the top proposals and ultimately the recommendation to accept Princeton Hydro's proposal.

Mr. Zolkewitz explained the criteria used in the selection process, stating that Princeton Hydro's staff, past experience, familiarity with the area, and understanding of the project resulted in the recommendation to accept their proposal.

Mr. Barrett added that he felt the proximity of Princeton Hydro's place of business to the site would also be beneficial.

Mr. Searing noted that he had independently reviewed the six proposals and Princeton Hydro's submission showed that they truly understand the dynamics of the area. He also noted that Princeton Hydro also was a vital part of the discussion during the Township's decision to remove the dam.

Both the Township Manager and the Township Engineer also independently ranked the proposal submitted by Princeton Hydro among the top two proposals.

The Board discussed whether or not there was a need to interview the top two firms or to accept the recommendation to retain Princeton Hydro, including the need to move forward sooner rather than later. The Township Engineer opined that it would be advantageous to start the studies during the late fall and winter while the vegetation is absent.

Mr. Cosdon opined that he would prefer that the Board interview the top two ranked firms before accepting a specific proposal.

Mr. Morrissey questioned if interviewing the top two firms would be the best use of time since it appears that Princeton Hydro is almost everyone's first choice, adding that he did not feel it was necessary to repeat the review and background research already done by the ASAC.

Mr. Searing commented that the ASAC recommends Princeton Hydro, the Twp. Manager and Engineer both recommend Princeton Hydro, the price is lower than the firm ranked second, and time is important.

No formal action was taken on the recommendation to accept the proposal from Princeton Hydro. The matter will be raised during the Board of Supervisors public meeting for consideration.

The Board and ASAC members present discussed the next steps for the committee, including possible uses for the "Judy House", creating a concept master plan for the park, additional trees, trails, parking requirements, etc. The ASAC will further discuss and return to the Board with a list of ideas ranked according to priority.

Ms. Tai suggested that the ASAC also consider looking at outreach, education and community fundraising at some point. The committee will consider the suggestion and advise if this is something the members feels they would be willing to take on.

It was noted that the ASAC was appointed for a period of one year which has expired. The Board will address this issue at the meeting on October 18, 2016.

The work session adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Gretchen K. Rice  
Assistant Manager