

SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

April 21, 2020 – 6:00 P.M.

VIRTUAL MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

The April 21, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Solebury Township Board of Supervisors meeting was duly advertised and held electronically through the Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform. The meeting was held in this manner due to the current State and Federal regulations in place from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Attendance: Mark Baum Baicker, Chair, Kevin Morrissey, Vice-Chair, Noel Barrett, John S. Francis, Robert McEwan, Dennis H. Carney, Township Manager, Michele Blood, Assistant Manager, and Catherine Cataldi, Secretary. Mark L. Freed, Township Solicitor was also in attendance.

Audience Attendance (Zoom Usernames): Clifford Funk, Carol Spiewak, Emason, Birgitta Wolfe, and Barbara Zietchick

Zoom recording device was then turned on.

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

A movement of Silence was observed for the more than 1,500 Pennsylvania residents and 112 Bucks County residents who have succumbed to COVID-19 thus far.

Mr. Baum Baicker made an announcement regarding the Township's everyday operations and Committee/Board meetings updates while the Declaration of Emergency is active.

II. Approval of Bills Payable – March 26, 2020 and April 17, 2020

Res. 2020-65 – Upon a motion by Mr. Morrissey, seconded by Mr. Francis, the list of Bills Payable dated March 26, 2020 and April 17, 2020 were unanimously approved as prepared and posted.

III. Meeting Minutes – March 3, 2020 and March 17, 2020

Res. 2020-66 - Upon a motion by Mr. McEwan, seconded by Mr. Barrett, the Minutes of the March 3, 2020 and March 17, 2020 Meeting were unanimously approved as written and posted.

IV. Announcements/Resignations/Appointments

- Mr. Baum Baicker announced that the Bucks County Commissioners have approved the extension of the penalty accrual portion of the real estate tax deadline from June 30, 2020 to July 30, 2020. The early payment discount deadline of April 30, 2020 was not extended.
- Mr. Baum Baicker made an announcement regarding the unknown economy impact that COVID-19 will have on the Township's revenues and expenses for 2020.
- Mr. Baum Baicker announced the postponement of the approved open space borrowing due to the stabilization of municipal rates and the unknown economic impact from COVID-19.

- Mr. Baum Baicker announced that the contractor for the Aquetong Spring Park stream restoration project was granted a work waiver allowing work to proceed.

V. Supervisors Comment

- Mr. McEwan commented on the 2020 Census. Mr. McEwan encouraged residents to complete the census online at: my2020census.gov.
- Mr. McEwan commented on the delay of the Township Audit. The first draft has been received.
- Mr. Morrissey made a comment regarding Solebury Township’s surplus.
- Mr. Morrissey commented on support for local businesses.
- Mr. Morrissey presented an update on New Hope Crushed Stone (NHCS). Highlights of this update include: the final lake elevation; natural flow vs mechanical flow; current water level; and NHCS’ bond requirement.

VI. Public Comment – No Public Comment

VII. New Business

Land Preservation Committee – Resolution for Approval of Acquisition of Conservation Easement on the Manoff Property (3157 Comfort Road, TMP No. 41-018-011)

The proposed resolution (copy of which is attached) of the Board of Supervisors of Solebury Township authorized the acquisition of a conservation easement on 35.72 acres comprising Tax Map Parcel No. 41-018-011 in Solebury Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Baum Baicker thanked the Land Preservation Committee.

Res. 2020-67 – Upon a motion by Mr. Baum Baicker, seconded by Mr. Barrett, it was unanimously agreed to approve the Resolution for Approval of Acquisition of Conservation Easement on the Manoff Property (3157 Comfort Road, TMP No. 41-018-011)

Land Preservation Committee – D & H Holding, LLC a.k.a. Solomon Property (3216 Comfort Road, TMP No. 41-018-016-001) – Agreement of Sale for Conservation Easement

The property is a parcel consisting of 14.93 acres located on Comfort Road. D & H Holding, LLC has agreed to the conservation easement purchase price of \$155,172.

Res. 2020-68 – Upon a motion by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Francis, it was unanimously agreed to authorize Mark Baum Baicker, Chair to sign the Agreement of Sale for Conservation Easement for the Property of D & H Holding, LLC a.k.a. Solomon Property (3216 Comfort Road, TMP No. 41-018-016-001).

Agricultural Security Area Application - James & Adrienne Mageras (TMP Nos. 41-036-134, 41-036-135, and 41-036-136) – Authorization to Submit Application to the Agricultural Security Area Advisory Committee, Solebury Township Planning Commission, and Bucks County Planning Commission

The Board acknowledged receipt of the application from James & Adrienne Mageras for inclusion of TMP Nos. 41-036-134, 41-036-135, and 41-036-136 into the Solebury Township Agricultural Security Area at the March 17, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting. Receipt of the ASA application was posted on March 31, 2020 and advertised on April 1, 2020. The two-week comment period ended April 16, 2020.

Res. 2020-69 – Upon a motion by Mr. McEwan, seconded by Mr. Barrett, it was unanimously agreed to submit the Agricultural Security Area application from James and Adrienne Mageras for inclusion of TMP Nos. 41-036-134, 41-036-135 and 41-036-136 into the Solebury Township Agricultural Security Area to the Agricultural Security Area Advisory Committee, Solebury Township Planning Commission, and Bucks County Planning Commission for review.

Resolution to Delay the Penalty Accrual Deadline for Municipal Real Estate Tax for the Year 2020 to July 31, 2020

The proposed resolution delays the penalty accrual date for Solebury Township municipal real estate taxes for 30 days from July 1 to July 31, 2020 with a penalty amount of ten percent (10%).

Res. 2020-70 – Upon a motion by Mr. Baum Baicker, seconded by Mr. Morrissey, it was unanimously agreed to approve the resolution to delay the penalty accrual date for Solebury Township municipal real estate taxes. The penalty accrual date will be delayed 30 days from July 1 to July 31, 2020 with a penalty amount of ten percent (10%).

Snow Plowing – Bid Award

Solebury Township received and reviewed the bids for snow plowing.

Res. 2020-71 – Upon a motion by Mr. Baum Baicker, seconded by Mr. Barrett, it was unanimously agreed to award the snow plowing bid for 2020-2023 to Professional Landscape Services and Blooming Glen Contactors, Inc., based upon their bids as submitted.

VIII. Public Comment – No Public Comment

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Cataldi
Secretary