

SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

January 5, 2023 – 9:30 A.M.

Solebury Township Hall/Virtual – Hybrid Meeting

WORK SESSION MINUTES

Attendance: Mark Baum Baicker, Chair, Hanna Howe, Vice-Chair, John S. Francis, Robert McEwan, Kevin Morrissey, Christopher Garges, Township Manager, Michele Blood, Assistant Manager and Catherine Cataldi, Secretary. Mark L. Freed, Township Solicitor was also in attendance.

Meeting recording was turned on.

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

II. Priorities and Objectives for 2023 – Board Discussion

The Board reviewed the draft preliminary list of Solebury Township Objectives for 2023. The preliminary list included recommendations from the most recent Comprehensive Plan in addition to other topics the Board felt should be included. A copy of the Board of Supervisors’ 2023 Priority Matrix is attached. Based upon discussion, the top priorities were determined as follows (Please note the priorities are not listed in any particular order):

1. Review and update the Township’s Airbnb Ordinance - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Baum Baicker/Mr. Freed
2. Continue Stormwater and Building Code review - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Francis/Planning Commission/Township Engineer
3. Research and draft a Burning Regulation Ordinance - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Freed/Mr. McEwan/Environmental Advisory Council
4. Continue to draft an Alternate Energy Ordinance - Lead/Sponsor: Board of Supervisors/Mr. Freed/ Planning Commission
5. Review of Ordinance Process - Lead/Sponsor: Board of Supervisors/Mr. Freed/ Planning Commission
6. Investigate addition ways for paperwork reduction - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Garges/Ms. Blood
7. Continue to identify and pursue grant opportunities - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Garges/Ms. Blood

Mr. Garges announced the hiring of Kate Robeson-Grubb, Solebury Township Sustainability & Administrative Specialist.

8. Continue sustainability actions including a climate consultant/energy audit/climate action plan/LCP Plan - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. McEwan/ Environmental Advisory Council/ Mr. Garges
9. Continue efforts to expand and evaluate deer management - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. McEwan/ Environmental Advisory Council/United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Mr. Garges
10. Continue involvement with potential Tuscarora cleanup - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Francis/Mr. Freed
11. Ongoing focus on development of trails - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Garges/Mr. McEwan/Mr. Francis
12. Aquetong Spring Park – Bond House Strategy - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Morrissey/Mr. Dudley Rice/ Parks & Recreation Board
13. Establish Environmental Advisory Council Sustainability Subcommittee/Climate Change Forum follow up - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. McEwan/Environmental Advisory Council
14. Continue to monitor the New Hope Crushed Stone situation, including the Quarry reclamation and Primrose Creek Restoration - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Morrissey/Mr. Francis

15. Lower Delaware Scenic Management Council - Designation of Solebury Creeks in Congressional Package - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. McEwan/Environmental Advisory Council
16. Continue tree plantings at Township owned properties - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Garges/Mr. Rice/Parks & Recreation Board/Environmental Advisory Council
17. Continue to improve traffic flow, safety and emissions along Route 202 - long term goal - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Baum Baicker/Mr. McEwan
18. Establishment of Route 202 Property Advisory Committee following resident survey/planning for use of property - Lead/Sponsor: Ms. Howe/Mr. Morrissey
19. Determine feasibility of trail development from the New Hope Eagle Firehouse to Aquetong Spring Park - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Garges/Mr. Rice
20. Establish updated land preservation objectives using Comprehensive Plan survey - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. McEwan/Mr. Baum Baicker/Comp Plan 2024
21. Continue to investigate and develop landowner/farmer match program - Lead/Sponsor: Ms. Howe/Farm Committee
22. Continue to pursue farm awareness efforts - Lead/Sponsor: Ms. Howe/ Farm Committee
23. Continue recruitment of potential committee members - Lead/Sponsor: Board of Supervisors/Township Administration
24. Continue coordination among committees - Annual meeting of Committee/Board Chairs with Board of Supervisors - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Baum Baicker
25. Start the preparation and planning for the next Comprehensive Plan update - Lead/Sponsor: Board of Supervisors/Township Administration
26. Parks and Open Space Plan -Ten (10) year update – Establish Committee - Lead/Sponsor: Mr. Garges/Mr. Rice/Parks & Recreation

III. Supervisor Comment

- Mr. McEwan expressed interest in listing Non-Profits on the Township website. Mr. Garges expressed vetting, management and accuracy concerns. Mr. Garges and Mr. McEwan are to discuss the list drafted non-profit list.

IV. Public Comment

- Barbara Zietchick, resident, commented on the use of the 202 property.
- Ms. Zietchick questioned if there were other properties in Solebury Township open to farming.
- John De Andrea, resident, questioned the hiring of a consultant, establishment of committee and process for updating the Comprehensive Plan.

V. Adjournment

The work session adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted
Catherine Cataldi
Secretary

2023 Priorities Summary

		IMMINENT	PRIORITY	ONGOING	LEAD/SPONSOR
1.0	ORDINANCE REVIEW				
1.1	AirBnB		*	*	MF/MBB
1.3	Storm Water/Building code review		*		PC/JF/CGenner
1.4	Burning Regulation		*		MF/EAC/RM
1.5	Alternative Energy ordinance - Jan 17 review meeting	*			PC/BOS/MF
1.6	Review of Ordinance Process		*		PC/BOS/MF
2.0	PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATION				
2.1	Paperwork reduction			*	MBlood/CG
2.2	Grants			*	MBlood/CG
3.0	SUSTAINABILITY				
3.1	Climate consultant/energy audit/Climate Action Plan/LCP Program		*	*	EAC/CG/RM
3.2	Deer Management - 2023 final report needed			*	EAC/RM/USDA/CG
3.3	Tuscarora Site Monitoring			*	JF/MF
3.5	Trails ongoing expansion			*	CG/RM/JF
3.6	Aquetong Spring Park - Bond House Strategy		*	*	P&R/KM/DR
3.7	Establish EAC sustainability subcommittee/Climate Change Forum follow up	*		*	EAC/RM
3.8	Quarry Monitoring			*	KM/JF
3.9	Lower Delaware Scenic Management Council - Designation of Solebury Creeks in Congressional Package		*		RM/EAC
3.1	Tree planting			*	DR/CG/EAC/P&R
4.0	ROUTE 202				
4.1	Improved traffic low/safety/emissions - review options			*	MBB/RM
4.2	Establishment of committee following resident survey/planning for flea market property		*	*	HH/KM
4.3	Eagle Fire House to ASP ("Gateway") trail feasibility		*		CG/DR
5.0	LAND PRESERVATION				
5.1	Establish updated objectives using Comprehensive Plan survey		*		KM/MBB/Comp Plan 2024
6.0	FARMING				
6.1	Landowner-farmer match program		*	*	FarmC/HH
6.2	Continue farm support efforts to include ordinance review			*	FarmC/HH
7.0	MISCELLANEOUS				
7.1	Committee recruitment - ZHB needs alternate			*	BOS/Township Administration
7.2	Committee Chairs to attend BOS meeting	*			MBB
7.3	Planning for next Comprehensive Plan Update			*	BOS/Twp Administration
7.4	Parks and Open Space Plan 10yr update - establish committee		*		P&R/CG/BOS