

SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
November 9, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.
Solebury Township Hall/Virtual - Hybrid Meeting
BUDGET MEETING MINUTES

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

Absent: Hanna Howe

The recording device was turned on.

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

II. Approval of Bills Payable – November 2, 2023

Res. 2023-139 – Upon a motion by Mr. Francis, seconded by Mr. Morrissey, the list of Bills Payable dated November 2, 2023 was unanimously approved as prepared and posted.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 3, 2023 Budget Meeting and October 17, 2023

Res. 2023-140 – Upon a motion by Mr. Morrissey, seconded by Mr. Francis, the Minutes of the October 3, 2023 budget meeting and October 17, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved as prepared and posted.

IV. Supervisor Comment

- Mr. Baum Baicker announced that Township resident Christy Cheever was elected as the new Supervisor starting 2024.
- Mr. Baum Baicker announced that Christopher Garges, Michele Blood and Hanna Howe met with representatives of New Hope Solebury School District and New Hope Borough to provide each other updates regarding current initiatives, shared topics of interest, etc.
- Mr. Baum Baicker announced Solebury Township employees volunteered for Rolling Harvest Food Rescue at Spring Creek Farm. Staff helped harvest sweet potatoes and gained a new respect for how much effort it takes to harvest them!

V. Announcements / Resignations / Appointments

Executive Session

Mr. Baum Baicker announced that an Executive Session was held October 17, 2023 and October 31, 2023 dealing with Personnel Matters.

Mr. Baum Baicker announced that an Executive Session was held directly prior to the Board of Supervisors meeting discussing Personnel and Zoning Matters.

Appointment of Kellie Cummings as Associate Member to the Environmental Advisory Council

Res. 2023-141 – Upon a motion by Mr. Francis, seconded by Mr. Morrissey, it was unanimously agreed to appoint Kellie Cummings, resident, without compensation, as Associate Member to the Environmental Advisory Council for term ending December 31, 2023.

Appointment of Michael Kerins to the Parks & Recreation Board

Res. 2023-142 – Upon a motion by Mr. Morrissey, seconded by Mr. McEwan, it was unanimously agreed to appoint Michael Kerins, resident, without compensation to the Parks & Recreation Board to fill the vacancy resulting from the resignation of Jim Trammell for term ending December 31, 2024.

Appointment of Robert McMahon to the Historical Architectural Review Board

Res. 2023-143 – Upon a motion by Mr. Francis, seconded by Mr. Morrissey, it was unanimously agreed to Robert McMahon, resident, without compensation to the Historical Architectural Review Board to fill the vacancy resulting from the resignation of CL Lindsay for term ending December 31, 2023.

Appointment of the Comprehensive Plan Committee Members

Res. 2023-144 – Upon a motion by Mr. Baum Baicker, seconded by Mr. Morrissey, it was unanimously agreed to appoint the following residents, without compensation, to the Comprehensive Plan Committee for a term expiring when the update of the Township Comprehensive Plan has been adopted by the Board of Supervisors or the Committee has been disbanded and dissolved by the Board:

- Michael Kennerly, James Searing and Katherine Reiss as At Large Members;
- Committee Representatives: Eric Allen, Environmental Advisory Council; Tim Luccaro, Farm Committee; Marnie Newman, Historical Architectural Review Board; Elaine Crooks, Land Preservation Committee; Nancy Stock-Allen, Parks & Recreation Board; and Peter Brussock, Planning Commission.
- Hanna Howe and Kevin Morrissey, Supervisor Liaisons

VI. Budget

2024 Budget – Authorization to Advertise

Mr. Garges presented the Preliminary 2024 Budget.

John DeAndrea, resident, questioned the solar line item. The Board explained that only the 2024 Budget is to be approved. Items listed in years past 2024 are just placeholders.

Res. 2023-145 – Upon a motion by Mr. Baum Baicker, seconded by Mr. Morrissey, it was unanimously agreed to advertise the proposed 2024 Budget for adoption at the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors scheduled for December 12, 2023.

VII. New Business

Authorization to Approve the Bucks County Planning Commission Planning Service Agreement – Comprehensive Plan Update

Res. 2023-146 – Upon a motion by Mr. Morrissey, seconded by Mr. Francis, it was unanimously agreed to approve the Bucks County Planning Commission Planning Service Agreement for providing professional planning services to the Township for the Comprehensive Plan update.

Authorization to Reconvene - Agricultural Security Area Committee

Res. 2023-147 – Upon a motion by Mr. Morrissey, seconded by Mr. McEwan, it was unanimously agreed to reconvene the Agricultural Security Area Committee consisting of the following members: Hanna Howe, Board Liaison; Kaitlin Farbotnik; Tim Luccaro; Gary Manoff; and Graham Phillips.

Agricultural Security Area Application – Temple Partners II LP General Partner, Temple Partners II GP, LLC (TMP# 41-002-076-002) – 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 Temple Partners II LP General Partner, Temple Partners II GP for inclusion of TMP Nos. 41-002-076-002 into the Solebury Township Agricultural Security Area at the October 17, 2023 Board of Supervisors meeting. Receipt of the ASA application was posted on October 26, 2023 and advertised on November 1, 2023.

Res. 2023-148 – Upon a motion by Mr. Francis, seconded by Mr. McEwan, it was unanimously agreed to submit the Agricultural Security Area application from Temple Partners II LP General Partner, Temple Partners II GP for inclusion of TMP Nos. 41-002-076-002 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.

Laurel Park – Pickleball Court – Noise Mitigation

On October 16, 2023 Township Administration met with Richard and Margaret Strucker regarding the pickleball courts located at Laurel Park. Noise mitigation options were discussed as well as neighbor support.

Mr. Morrissey recognized the Parks & Recreation Board’s involvement on finding a resolution to Mr. and Mrs. Strucker’s noise complaint.

Res. 2023-149 – Upon a motion by Mr. Baum Baicker, seconded by Mr. Morrissey, it was unanimously agreed to authorize the Township Administration to install a sound barrier to help with noise mitigation.

Jordan Brennan & Louis Palena Zoning Hearing Board Application – Authorize Solicitor to Attend

This topic was eliminated as no action was needed.

Ayn Crawley & John Nawyn Zoning Hearing Board Application – Authorize Solicitor to Attend

This topic was eliminated as no action was needed.

VIII. Public Comment – No Public Comment

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Cataldi, Secretary