

**SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

February 6, 2018 – 7:00 P.M.

**Solebury Township Hall**

**MINUTES**

Attendance: Helen Tai, Chair, Mark Baum Baicker, Vice-Chair, Noel Barrett, Robert McEwan, Michele Blood, Finance Director / Treasurer, and Catherine Cataldi, Secretary. Joanna A. Waldron, Solicitor was also in attendance

Absent: Kevin Morrissey and Dennis H. Carney, Township Manager

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

Audio recording device was then turned on.

**II. Approval of Bills Payable – December 20, 2017, December 31, 2017, January 11, 2018, and February 1, 2018**

**Res. 2018-21 – Upon a motion by Mr. Baum Baicker, seconded by Mr. McEwan, the lists of Bills Payable dated December 20, 2017, December 31, 2017, January 11, 2018, and February 1, 2018 were unanimously approved as prepared and posted.**

**III. Approval of Minutes – December 12, 2017 Regular Meeting, January 2, 2018 Reorganization Meeting, and January 9, 2018 Work Session**

**Res. 2018-22 – Upon a motion by Mr. McEwan, seconded by Mr. Baum Baicker, the Minutes of the December 12, 2017, January 2, 2018, and January 9, 2018 meetings were unanimously approved.**

**IV. Announcements/Resignations/Appointments**

- **Update on Verizon FiOS -Mr. Baum Baicker provided the following update:**  
Mr. Baum Baicker, Mr. McEwan and Mr. Carney, met with Verizon employee, Douglas Smith on January 30, 2018. Mr. Smith went over the history regarding FiOS and reasons it is not in Solebury. He made it clear that he has looked into every avenue for Solebury to access FIOS. It was made apparent that the future for Verizon is wireless. Mr. Smith gave the impression that within the next few years Solebury will be approached regarding wireless.

Mr. McEwan thanked Mr. Morrissey for his efforts and determination to get the appointment with Verizon.

Mr. Baum Baicker expressed gratitude towards Mr. Morrissey for being persistent and that is the reason Solebury was able to meet with Verizon.

- Mr. Tai announced that the Board determined the top priorities for 2018 at the work session held January 9, 2018. Some of the priorities listed are a continuation of work. Ms. Tai pointed out a few new priorities which include:
  1. Develop recommendations/education/actions for Township and Landowners regarding managing flood-prone areas, riparian buffers and natural landscapes;
  2. Proactive planning project for 202, etc.;
  3. Associate members for Advisory Committees;

4. EV Charging Stations;
5. Re-Evaluate fees from various Township Consultants

**V. Supervisors Comment – No Supervisor comment**

**VI. Public Comment – No early public comments**

**VII. Presentations**

Police Department Commendations

Chief Bellizzie expressed his gratitude to all the Solebury Township Officers, family and friends for attending the meeting. He thanked the Township Manager and Board of Supervisors for working with the police department regarding the police renovations.

Chief Bellizzie presented commendations to several officers:

Officer Megan Klosterman received an Official Commendation of Merit for life savings measures on a suicidal adult male. Officer Klosterman located the person in a vehicle containing poisonous exhaust fumes. Officer Klosterman secured the hazards and administered first aid saving this man's life.

Officer Matthew Rice received an Official Commendation of Merit for live saving measures of a drug overdose victim, where Officer Rice administered Narcan to the unconscious victim saving her life.

Officer Gary Forrester received an Official Commendation of Merit in regards to a missing person's investigation. Officer Forrester's thorough investigation provided a major break in the case of four missing men.

Detective/Corporal Jonathan Koretzky received a Commendatory Citation in regards to a series of burglaries resulting in the in the arrest of a male subject who was charged with multiple counts of burglary, theft and related charges

Detective/Corporal Jonathan Koretzky received 4 Official Commendation of Merits: 2) for a sexual assault investigation resulting in the arrests of two persons who were charged with numerous felonies, 3) for a sexual assault investigation resulting in felony charges of institutional sexual assault and related charges, and 4) for a homicide investigation resulting in the recovery of four bodies and the arrest of two defendants who were charged with multiple counts of homicide and related charges.

The Supervisors thanked the entire Solebury Township Police Department for their outstanding work and for helping to ensure the safety of Solebury residents. The Supervisors and also commended Chief Bellizzie for his outstanding leadership in general, but especially in the investigation of the four murders last summer.

**VIII. Public Hearing – No public hearing took place**

**IX. Old Business**

New Hope Crushed Stone Update

Ms. Tai provided the Board with the following update:

New Hope Crushed Stone's appeal is still ongoing. A small group continues to meet with the Department of Environmental Protection.

Omnibus Phase II Ordinance – Authorization to Advertise

The proposed Ordinance is amending the Solebury Township Zoning Ordinance to provide for Pet Cemetery, Dog Day Care, Veterinary Office, Individual Backyard Composting Facilities and Detention Facilities, to add special provisions, to correct certain missing zoning districts, the table of uses and summary and bulk regulation tables, and to update the subdivision and land development ordinance traffic signalization requirements. The ordinance was reviewed by Solebury Township and Bucks County Planning Commissions and modified based from their suggestions.

**Res. 2018-23 – Upon a motion by Mr. Baum Baicker, seconded by Mr. McEwan, it was unanimously agreed to authorize the advertisement of the Omnibus Phase II Ordinance.**

**X. New Business**

Temporary Lodging Ordinance – Authorization to Send to Solebury Township and Bucks County Planning Commissions

The proposed Ordinance amends the Solebury Township Zoning Ordinance regarding temporary lodging facilities and event uses.

Mr. Baum Baicker read a comment from Mr. Morrissey.

Mr. McEwan suggested that a checklist be drafted once the ordinance is adopted.

**Res. 2018-24 – Upon a motion by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. McEwan, it was unanimously agreed to send the Temporary Lodging Ordinance to Solebury Township Planning Commission and Bucks County Planning Commission.**

Speed Limit on Creamery and Greenhill Roads Ordinance – Authorization to Advertise

The proposed ordinance amends the Solebury Township Code of Ordinances Chapter 15 section 201 to reduce the speed limit on Creamery and Greenhill Roads.

- Creamery Road speed limit has been reduced to 25 mph from 35 mph.
- Greenhill Road speed limit has been reduced to 35 mph from 40 mph.

**Res. 2018-25 – Upon a motion by Mr. McEwan, seconded by Mr. Baum Baicker, it was unanimously agreed to authorize the advertisement of the Speed Limit on Creamery and Greenhill Roads Ordinance.**

Brake Retarders Prohibited on Certain Streets Ordinance – Authorization to Advertise

The proposed ordinance amends the Solebury Township Code of Ordinances chapter 15 to add section 314 to prohibit brake retarders on certain streets, including portions of Lower York Road (State Road 202) North and Southbound and establish a fine for violation of the prohibition.

**Res. 2018-26 – Upon a motion by Mr. Baum Baicker, seconded by Mr. Barrett, it was unanimously agreed to authorize the advertisement of the Brake Retarders Prohibited on certain streets Ordinance.**

Resolution in Support of the September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial Trail Project

The resolution endorses the concept of the September Eleventh National Memorial Trail System. Andrew Hamilton presented the trail system to the Board on September 15, 2017. The Trail is a 1,300 mile multi-purpose trail routed on trails and roadways in various eastern seaboard states dedicated to the people who were lost to the September 11, 2001 tragedy.

Barbara Zietchick asked if the trail is non-motorized, motorized or both. Mr. Hamilton informed Ms. Zietchick that the trail consisted of both motorized and non-motorized sections.

**Res. 2018-27 – Upon a motion by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Baum Baicker, it was unanimously agreed to authorize the resolution to Endorse the concept of the September Eleventh National Memorial Trail System.**

Park & Recreation – Non-Resident Fees

Solebury approached New Hope last fall regarding the inequities in the way the costs for the shared services were split, which included: fire services; ambulance; the library; and Parks & Recreation. Solebury met with representatives of the New Hope Borough Council in October 2017. This meeting was to be the first of a series of meetings to address these concerns. Solebury representatives came prepared with numbers, concepts, etc., but New Hope brought nothing. New Hope then cancelled the scheduled follow-up meeting and has not responded to any of Solebury's subsequent requests to continue the discussion.

In November 2017, Solebury Township Board of Supervisors voted to rescind the existing agreement under which New Hope contributed \$1,500 annually for Park & Recreation and offered a new agreement with an annual contribution of \$32,000. Notice was sent to New Hope in November 2017 that if no new agreement was reached by January 31, 2018, Solebury would need to adopt non-resident fees for the sports programs. The January 31 deadline came and went with not a word from New Hope.

Mr. Baum Baicker proposed that Solebury Township set non-resident fees of \$50 per child per sport to a maximum of \$150 per household. The non-resident fee would apply to all non-Solebury residents, whether they live in Lambertville, Doylestown, New Hope, or elsewhere. Registrations already submitted for 2018 would not be charged retroactively. The fee schedule would be for 2018 only, with future fees dependent upon any cooperation from New Hope.

Mr. Baum Baicker made the following statement:

"I realize that even a modest non-resident fee schedule impacts the players and their parents. But the New Hope Borough Council has given us no other reasonable option. By the same token, I don't like that the fee schedule I am advocating yields less revenue than any reasonable agreement with New Hope should produce. But we must be mindful of the impact on families; by limiting the non-resident fee to \$50 per registration and \$150 per household, we are doing our best to keep the fees from becoming unduly burdensome. We value our kids and the positive impacts our sports programs have on their lives. And we don't want to discourage continued participation by New Hope's kids. As we said months ago, it's up to New Hope to decide if they feel the same way about their kids that we feel about ours. I thus would encourage the parents of New Hope kids who participate in our sports programs to contact their Borough leaders to urge them to cooperate with Solebury to develop a cost-sharing arrangement that is fair to Solebury, New Hope, and the kids from both communities."

The Board members reiterated their support for Solebury's Park & Recreation program. At the same time, they have a responsibility to safeguard how Solebury Township's taxpayers' money is spent. Solebury Board members remain open to proposals from New Hope and are hopeful that this will be a short-term measure.

Kevin Campbell, Park & Recreation Chair, asked if the fees would no longer be charged if Solebury Township and New Hope Borough made an agreement. The Board advised that the fees would no longer be active if New Hope comes to Solebury Township with a reasonable proposal.

Mr. Campbell asked what the Board's idea of a reasonable proposal was. The Board was unable to answer until they meet with New Hope.

**Res. 2018-28 – Upon a motion by Mr. Baum Baicker, seconded by Mr. McEwan, it was unanimously agreed to adopt a field sport non-resident fee of \$50.00 per child with a maximum of \$150.00 per family per year. Any child who has already registered in 2018 will not be charged retroactively.**

**XI. Subdivisions/Land Developments**

**XII. Public Comment**

**XIII. Adjournment**

**Res. 2018-29 –The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Catherine Cataldi  
Secretary

0062

**SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE THE CONCEPT OF THE SEPTEMBER ELEVENTH  
NATIONAL MEMORIAL TRAIL SYSTEM**

**RESOLUTION 2018-27**

**WHEREAS**, the September Eleventh National Memorial Trail ("9-11 NMT") is a 1,300-mile symbol of resiliency and character that links the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon in Washington D.C. and the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, and serves as a tribute to the fallen men and women who perished on September 11, 2001;

**WHEREAS**, the 9-11 NMT is a multipurpose trail system that provides cyclists, hikers and walkers a valued public resource and an opportunity to experience breathtaking landscapes, explore new towns and engage in this unique historic trail;

**WHEREAS**, the 9-11 NMT routing studies were completed in 2015 in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, by the September 11th Trail Alliance, along with cooperation of local and state governments, assistance of federal agencies, and great friendships of East Coast Greenway, the C&O Canal, and the Great Allegheny Passage;

**WHEREAS**, the 9-11 NMT, will pass through sites showcasing the nation's industrial, historic, patriotic history, and cultural diversity;

**WHEREAS**, the 9-11 NMT is currently an off-road trail with inter-connecting roadways and will be a complete shared-use pathway that will connect the Flight 93 National Memorial, the National September Eleventh Memorial and Museum and the National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial;

**WHEREAS**, the 9-11 NMT unifies New York City, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Washington DC, Virginia and West Virginia;

**WHEREAS**, Solebury Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania joins other municipalities in seven states and with the District of Columbia through which the 9-11 NMT runs in endorsing the trail;

**WHEREAS**, the 9-11 NMT will spur the building of a network of pedestrian and bicycling greenways through Solebury Township, a goal of Solebury Township's Comprehensive Plan, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and other agencies;

**WHEREAS**, the 9-11 NMT will serve bicyclists, walkers, equestrians, the physically challenged and other non-motorized and motorized users, both local residents and long-distance travelers;

0063

**WHEREAS**, the 9-11 NMT, by providing a largely off-road route separated from vehicular traffic, will encourage people of all ages to be outdoors more, improving their health and physical fitness while enjoying their playing fields, parks and nature preserves; and

**WHEREAS**, the 9-11 NMT, by offering tourists and shoppers access to natural, cultural and historical sites, will bring economic benefits to municipalities and businesses along the route.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors of Solebury Township, Buck County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, endorses the concept of the 9-11 NMT and its passage through the Township of Solebury, on roads and trails and encourages our neighboring municipalities to do the same; and to support the use and designation of existing trails along the alignment of the 9-11 NMT; and to process the requested installation of 9-11 NMT signage in accordance with Township regulations and in coordination with the Solebury Township Public Works Department.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the 9-11 NMT, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

**RESOLVED, ADOPTED and APPROVED**, on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2018, at a regular public meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Solebury Township.

**SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**



Helen Tai, Chair

Attest:



Catherine Cataldi, Township Secretary

February 6, 2018

Date