

SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Virtual Meeting

July 15, 2020

Minutes

Attendance: TJ Francisco, William Jordan, Peter Brussock, Gretchen Rice, Keith Deussing, Lesley Marino, Mark Freed (Township Solicitor), Kevin Morrissey (Supervisor Liaison) and Jean Weiss (Planning Commission Administrator).

Absent: Amishi Castelli, Dan Fest

I. Call to Order

At 7:05 p.m., the Solebury Township Planning Commission meeting was called to order.

II. Approval of Minutes – June 8, 2020

Upon a motion made by Peter Brussock, seconded by William Jordan, the Solebury Township Planning Commission approved the June 8, 2020 meeting minutes.

III. Signs – Proposed Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance

Mark Freed briefly went through the updated draft sign ordinance stating the most recent draft incorporates all the comments from the June Planning Commission meeting. The main changes were related to temporary signs

TJ Francisco questioned the section on governmental signs, there is no text associated under the heading. What is the difference between governmental signs and political signs.

Mark Freed clarified that governmental signs are more directional i.e. one-way, hospital, yield, stop etc.

Mark Freed stated the heading in under the section signs allowed without a permit, they are defined under governmental signs in the definition section of the ordinance.

Mark Freed discussed taking out temporary signs and including the verbiage under limited durations signs.

Mark Freed referencing the ordinance table stated that there are (2) sections referencing temporary signs which need to be more clarified.

TJ Francisco referencing (2) large political signs on Route 202 and another on Aquetong Rd are examples of sign that perhaps the Township would like to avoid in the future and asked if a permit had been obtained.

Jean Weiss stated there was no permit obtained, as no political signs are ever permitted.

Mark Freed commented that trying to regulate political signs will be very difficult to enforce.

Keith Deussing suggested tabling the sign ordinance to give Mark Freed an opportunity to make additional changes for review by the planning commission.

Mark Freed stated he would have the revisions to the committee by July 27th to give plenty of time for review prior to the meeting.

IV. Sustainability Register

TJ Francisco commented that the EAC is also working on a project of sustainability, and he had a conference call with EAC member Doug Shaw, Kevin Morrissey and John Francis to discuss what initiatives they are working on. They are also working on Ready 100, which over a number of years their goal is to get the Township to a place where they are 100% renewable energy.

TJ Francisco stated he had sent out to everyone the draft executive summary on the sustainability register that he would like to get to the Board of Supervisors before their August 18th meeting.

Peter Brussock proceeded to go over the score section of the register with the committee.

Kevin Morrissey asked to add a couple sentences in the draft summary identifying the low hanging fruit, it would make it easier to budget and identify what is the initial project. This is a very large project.

TJ Francisco asked what time-line the committee should be looking at to get this to the Board of Supervisors.

Kevin Morrissey stated the first meeting in September will be the first budget meeting of the year. If we could get something to the Supervisors right after the August planning commission meeting it could be in their hands before the first budget meeting. At this point I can communicate to the staff that are working on the budget that there will be a request for \$100,000.

I would also like to present this to the community to give them a better understanding of what we are working and spending money on.

The committee needs to think about what the presentation to the Board, and community will contain it is a lot of money the committee is asking for and there will be a lot of questions and maybe some concerns.

Peter Brussock suggested having a small roundtable discussion with some members of the committee and (2) Board members to brainstorm what will go into the presentation.

Kevin Morrissey suggested having a couple members of the committee present this at the August 18th Board meeting to explain and make clear to the Board and the community what this project is all about and the benefit to the Township.

Lesley Marino suggested emphasizing more in the draft that the comprehensive plan is the guiding force behind this project.

Kevin Morrissey suggested sharing this with the Township Engineer to get their input.

VI. Adjournment

Upon a Motion by Gretchen Rice seconded by TJ Francisco, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Weiss
Planning Commission Administrator, Solebury Township