

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CAMBRIDGE
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REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 9, 2020

CALL TO ORDER, MOMENT OF SILENCE, AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG: Chairman Cole called the November 9, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 PM, followed by a moment of silence and the salute to the flag. The Meeting was held remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

ROLL CALL: Supervisors in attendance were Kevin Cole, Charlie Bauer, and Bernie Blystone. Also present was Secretary/Treasurer/Zoning Officer, Debra E. Merritt; Roadmaster, Dan Klaphor; and Visitors, Ian Evans, and Mike McHugh of Pattern Energy.

IDENTIFICATION OF RECORDING DEVICES: There were no recording devices identified.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (AGENDA ITEMS AND OTHER MATTERS): There were no comments from the public at this time.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: There were no comments from the Supervisors

PUBLIC REQUESTS BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT: Ian Evans and Mike McHugh of Pattern Energy participated in this evening's meeting to introduce the Board to Pattern Energy's company and to provide an overview of the solar farm project proposed in Cambridge Township. Mr. Evans began by noting that they are aware that the Township is in the early stages of developing and enacting an ordinance to regulate solar farms, as the current Zoning Ordinance does not address them. He continued by noting that Pattern Energy is a leading independent U.S.-based renewable energy company and that they operate utility-scale renewable energy facilities in the United States, Canada, Chile, Japan, and Mexico.

Mr. McHugh provided the Board with a project overview, reporting that it will include a \$100 million capital investment on approximately 1,500 acres located in Crawford County, specifically in Cussewago, Venango, and Cambridge Townships and in Washington Township in Erie County. He further reported that the project will generate approximately 116 MW of electricity which is enough to power 22,000 homes. Furthermore, during the construction process, roughly 100 jobs will be created, and revenue will be generated by the employees into local communities in terms of lodging, food, gas, and groceries.

Mr. Evans then provided the Board with the anticipated developmental processes involved with the project, including surveys and field work which will include environmental and cultural/historic studies; local, state, and federal permitting; and finally, construction. Mr. Evans stated that construction will be led by Pattern Energy as well as engineering and construction firms, which have yet to be selected. He stated that he anticipates the construction to run on a 12-month schedule, beginning as early as the end of 2021, with commercial operation scheduled to occur at the end of 2022. He stated that they will be generating renewable energy for the Pennsylvania transmission system and providing competitively priced electricity to utilities to keep costs low for customers. In conclusion Mr. Evans noted that he would anticipate the project being fully decommissioned and removed after approximately 35 years. Mr. Evans and Mr. McHugh thanked the Board for hearing their presentation and welcomed questions from the Board.

Mr. Cole questioned who would be responsible for the upkeep of the project grounds, in terms of mowing and landscaping. Mr. McHugh stated that Pattern Energy would ultimately be responsible for the maintenance of the project grounds. Mr. Bauer questioned the approximate height of the solar panels. Mr. McHugh noted that the panels would sit no higher than 8 to 12 feet off the ground. Mr. Cole also requested clarification on the decommissioning process. Mr. Evans noted that the entire operation would be removed at the end of the project's usefulness, which usually runs for approximately 35-40 years. He further stated that all equipment would be removed, and the site restored to its original condition. With

no other questions from the Board, Mr. Cole thanked Mr. Evans and Mr. McHugh for their time and stated that the Board looked forward to working with them as the process moves forward.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

CAJA – Minutes from the October 6, 2020 Meeting were received from CAJA. Mr. Bauer stated that was nothing new to report other than the Riverside Brewery will be receiving their first tentative surcharge bill to address their output issue and would keep the Board informed as the matter progressed.

ZONING/PLANNING –

- **Planning Commission:** There were no minutes received from the Planning Commission.
- **Zoning Hearing Board:** There were no minutes received from the Zoning Hearing Board.
- **Zoning Officer:** A written report was submitted by the Zoning Officer.

FRENCH CREEK COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS – The next meeting of the French Creek Council of Governments is scheduled for Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 11:30 AM.

TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE – The next meeting of the Crawford County Tax Collection Committee is scheduled for Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

SEWAGE – There was no report received from Peter Homchenko, Sewage Enforcement Officer.

PROJECTS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Pleasant Hills Stormwater Facilities. Mr. Klapthor stated that as requested at the last meeting he marked all the stormwater facilities located in the Pleasant Hills Subdivision. He stated that it appeared that all the facilities, except for one pipe (which runs into the pond on Thornapple) is located with the Township’s right-of-way. With the knowledge that most of the facilities are located within the right-of-way, he questioned which facilities the Board would potentially be interested in accepting. He did note that as he anticipated, it appears that all the facilities connect in some fashion. Mr. Bauer stated that he believed the Board should only be responsible for dealing with the facilities that run under the roads. Mr. Klapthor noted that would be fine, however noted that those pipes ultimately connect to other pipes located throughout the subdivision. It was again noted that the Township did not accept any of the stormwater facilities when accepting the subdivision years ago. Ms. Merritt stated that she would locate the letter sent in response to the stormwater request made by former Township resident Phil Skeba several years ago and forward it to the Board for their review and consideration.

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposed 2021 Budget.

Motion by Mr. Cole to advertise for public inspection the proposed 2021 Budget as which contains no tax increase for adoption at the December 14, 2020 Regular Meeting. Second by Mr. Blystone.

Cole: Yes

Bauer: Yes

Blystone: Yes

2021 Insurance Renewal. Ms. Merritt reported that the Township’s group healthcare renewal rates were received from UPMC and have been provided to the Board for their review. She further noted that she has prepared and provided a year-to-date spreadsheet of the healthcare deductibles paid this year for their consideration. The Board must make a determination on the proposed renewal by November 30, 2020.

Motion by Mr. Bauer to renew the Township's healthcare plan, provided by UPMC, identified as PPO \$2,500 \$20/\$40 for the period of January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021, provided through Borgeson Insurance Services and to pay the applicable premium. Second by Mr. Cole.

Cole: Yes Bauer: Yes Blystone: Yes

ROADMASTER'S REPORT: A written report was submitted by the Roadmaster.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT:

Motion by Mr. Blystone to accept the Treasurer's Report and make Payment of the Bills as presented. Second by Mr. Bauer.

Cole: Yes Bauer: Yes Blystone: Yes

Motion by Mr. Bauer to accept the minutes of the October 12, 2020 Regular Meeting, as presented. Second by Mr. Blystone.

Cole: Yes Bauer: Yes Blystone: Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: There were no additional comments from the public.

FURTHER BUSINESS: There was no further business for the Board to address.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to be decided, Mr. Bauer moved to adjourn. Second by Mr. Cole. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.



Debra E. Merritt, Secretary