

**HELLAM TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
Minutes of October 26, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Devin Winand. The meeting was held at the Hellam Township Municipal Building. Chairman Winand led the Pledge of Allegiance. Other members present were Michael Shillott, Rick Cooper, Steve Fetrow, John Eifert, and Fred Owens. Other attendees included Jason Test, Zoning Officer.

Minutes Approval:

Upon a motion by Mr. Shillott and seconded by Mr. Fetrow, the minutes from the September 28, 2023 meeting were approved with corrections. Motion carried 5-0.

New-Business:

A discussion was had concerning Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law. Through the course of the discussion members were advised that they could discuss Planning Commission issues with the public outside of a formal meeting, but could not discuss Planning Commission issues with members outside of a formal meeting.

Mr. Eifert asked if an issue could be discussed outside of a formal meeting if a decision had already been given. It was felt that an issue could be discussed outside of a meeting if a decision had been provided. Mr. Owens felt the solicitor should be consulted.

On-going Business:

Solar Ordinance Amendment:

The Commission discussed the proposed survey concerning solar power in the Township. The provided survey is 21 questions with numerous questions having multiple sub questions. The discussion centered around the size and scope of the survey. The residents were identified as the target and that questions should be constructed with the residents in mind. It was suggested that the Board of Supervisor complete the updated survey and provide feedback.

The Commission then discussed the Pros and Cons list that was generated. The list contains 30 points and each point was reviewed. Mr. Shillott gave clarification on agrivoltaics, which is farming and solar on the same parcel, and on community solar, which is a solar system placed in a neighborhood or commercial/industrial site which provides energy to the neighborhood or commercial/industrial site.

The Commission then discussed the comparison between the current ordinance and the proposed ordinance. The provided list is 72 points and each point was reviewed. Upon conclusion of the review, it was stated that technology and practices have progressed and due to that progression, the Township's solar ordinance should be updated.

Typical Flow for Ordinance Crafting:

Mr. Shillott provided a copy of the Typical Flow Chart he generated. He stated that there is some cosmetic work that needs to be completed as the chart is four pages.

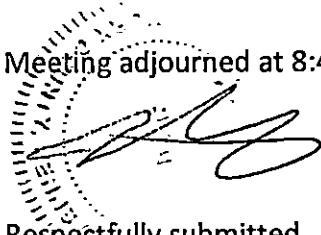
State of the Township:

No discussion on this topic

Correspondence/Reports

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.

A circular stamp is partially visible behind the signature. The text within the stamp is mostly illegible but appears to contain the words "PLANNING COMMISSION" and "TOWNSHIP OF...".

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Test, Zoning Officer