

**HELLAM TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
Minutes of December 14, 2023**

Rick Cooper was appointed Chairman Pro Temp as Chairman Winand and Vice Chairman Kokiko were not present. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Cooper. The meeting was held at the Hellam Township Municipal Building. Chairman Cooper led the Pledge of Allegiance. Other members present were Michael Shillott, Steve Fetrow, John Eifert, and Chris Altland. Other attendees included Corina Mann, Township Manager, and Jason Test, Zoning Officer.

Minutes Approval:

Upon a motion by Mr. Shillott and seconded by Mr. Eifert, the minutes from the November 9, 2023 meeting were approved. Motion carried 5-0.

New-Business:

None

On-going Business:

Solar Ordinance Amendment:

Mr. Shillott discussed and that he and Ms. Mann have been reviewing the proposed ordinance and the survey that is being crafted for the general public. Ms. Mann made the suggestion that several questions be removed from the survey as they were not pertinent to the crafting of the ordinance for Hellam Township. She suggested that removed questions be converted into hyperlinks and used for educational purposes. Mr. Eifert was happy with that idea and the general consensus was increased education on the subject is a positive step.

Mr. Shillott advised that the survey would be posted on the Township's Engage webpage. He also stated that there has been discussion of placing paper copies at local businesses. He would like to have results of the resident's survey for the next meeting.

Ms. Mann advised that a suggestion had been made that Mr. Shillott and Mr. Cooper meet with Supervisor Conaway to see if it would be feasible or beneficial to integrate the proposed solar ordinance with the existing solar ordinance.

There was a discussion concerning overhead power lines. Supervisor Conaway stated that he will attempt to contact Met-Ed and speak to them about the transmission lines to include size and capacity.

Mr. Cooper talked about the installation of solar panels above parking lots which reduces the effect on open spaces.

Typical Flow for Ordinance Crafting:

There was discussion on the flow chart. The discussion centered around steps that could be removed or altered. Mr. Shillott advised that he will attempt to implement the suggestions.

State of the Township:

No discussion on this topic

Correspondence/Reports

The Planning Commission meeting scheduled for December 28, 2023 has been cancelled.

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Test, Zoning Officer