**District Township Planning Commission**

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**December 11, 2024**

**Call to Order**

The BUSINESS meeting of the District Township Planning Commission was held on December 11, 2024 at the Township Municipal Building, 202 Weil Road, Boyertown, PA 19512. Piper Sherburne called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Planning Commission members Piper Sherburne, Michael Carr, Eric Strauss and Ron Leibowitz. Assistant Secretary Kim Schroeder and Secretary Jen Sauerwald were present. Also present were solicitor Gene Orlando and engineer John Weber.

**Agenda**

The December 2024 BUSINESS meeting agenda was posted to the District Township website and municipal building on 12/10/2024.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mr. Leibowitz, to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2024 Business Meeting as written.

**Correspondence:** None

**Current Plans:** None

**New Plans:**  None

**Old Business**:

* EBJPC –Item requested by District Township is included; however, a few items will not apply to our Township.
* Public Meeting to be held at BHMS Auditorium on January 14, 2025.

Mr. Weber advised that the following definitions be edited;

**Section 2. Definitions**

Accessory Solar Energy System (ASES) – An alternative energy system consisting of any solar collector, solar energy device, or any structural design feature mounted on a principal building, accessory building, or on the ground, and whose primary purpose is the collection of solar energy to generate electricity, ~~or otherwise convert solar energy into mechanical energy for space heating~~ or cooling, or for water heating for the primary purpose of reducing on-site consumption of purchased power. (Revised)

**Section 2 Definitions - Lot Size-A**

1. Areas within an existing or proposed, public or private access or utilities easement or right-of-way; and (Revised)

**Section 2 Definitions**

Principal Solar Energy System (PSES) – An alternative energy system consisting of roof mounted or ground mounted solar collection devices and solar energy related equipment to generate electricity or otherwise convert solar energy into mechanical or other forms of energy for the primary purpose of using the energy for commercial or ~~other~~ off-site use or a system existing solely to generate energy for sale back into the existing electrical distribution system, rather than being consumed on site. (Revised)

Commission proceeded to Review/Edit the following:

**Section 6 Solar Energy Systems-**2 Principal Solar Energy Systems (PSES) - b. Ground-Mounted PSES Regulations

1. The minimum lot size (as defined by the District Township Zoning Ordinance) for the installation of a PSES shall be ~~ten (10) /~~ twenty (20) acres.

4) The maximum area of the tract utilized for a ground-mounted PSES, meaning the area of solar panels, equipment, roads or paths and other items affixed to the ground which are part of or used in the operations of the PSES, shall not exceed ~~fifty (50%)~~ twenty (20%) percent of the gross tract area. (Revised)

Items 9 through 13 were renumbered 9 through 14 as there were two (2) item 9s.

**Public Participation:**

Mr. John Chenosky provided articles demonstrating negative benefits of Solar energy and a statement from Representative Kathy L. Rapp’s statement on introducing legislation to assure the proper decommissioning, recycling, and reclamation of solar panels and wind turbines within the Commonwealth.

**Adjournment:**

With no further business to come before the Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Leibowitz, seconded by Mr. Strauss, to adjourn the BUSINESS meeting at 7:48 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Sauerwald

District Township Planning Commission Secretary