

**Franklin Township Supervisors
Public Workshop Meeting
Solar Farm Ordinance/Curative Amendment**

October 1, 2024

The Franklin Township Supervisors met on the above date at the Franklin Township Administration Building located at 889 Fairyland Road. Township Officials present were Supervisors, Fred Kemmerer, Robin Cressley, Leroy Kemmerer and Secretary Christine Green. A list of others in attendance at the meeting is attached in the Minute Book. Chairman Kemmerer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Chairman Kemmerer explained that the purpose of the workshop meeting was to review and receive input from residents to amend the Solar Farm Ordinance/Curative Amendment for future adoption. Fred Kemmerer stated that the SALDO Ordinance was done in 1972 and there is nothing on the books allowing solar so we are looking to move forward for the solar aspect of it.

Carson Helfrich spoke in length about an overview for the process of updating the ordinance which includes the section on solar energy. He spoke about the Township receiving a curative amendment which basically means "cure the defect" Ordinance to amend 1972 ordinance which to include accessory solar energy. Carson reviewed the proposed amended ordinance page by page with everyone. Carson Helfrich and the Board of Supervisors then took questions from the audience. There were some questions on several sections on the proposed ordinance specifically regarding Landscaping and vegetative buffering, Setbacks, and decommissioning this will be discussed further amongst the Board of Supervisors, Attorney Nanovic and will then be re-visited at the next scheduled workshop meeting.

Matt Neeb started a discussion regarding setbacks. He questioned what the setbacks are and stated that since Solar is allowed in an agricultural area he suggested to the Board to reconsider larger setbacks. Brenda Cressley estimated that 90% of the township is zoned agricultural. Attorney Cerullo asked to let him know and just consider a fair balance. Carson asked the Supervisors and Tom Nanovic regarding their feelings on the subject of setbacks.

Robin Cressley stated he doesn't like the idea of using farmland because the County projected ten million dollars to preserve farmland. He said and now here we are using it for something other than productive farming. Resident Jill Renfrew agreed with that statement.

Attorney Nanovic and Carson Helfrich felt that there needs to be another workshop meeting. Attorney Nanovic would like to have the engineer's comments and draft before the next Board of Supervisor's meeting. (October 15, 2024) His goal is to have the draft proposal and curative amendment completed by December 2nd.

Robert Correll asked for a larger map of the Solar Plan that is proposed on Renner Road so that he can review everything better since the map was so small.

Fred made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Green