CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Carla Stilson, Chair, called to order the January 30, 2023, Regular Meeting of the College Township (CT) Council at 5:50 PM and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Chair Stilson announced that the CT Council met in Executive Session prior to the start of the meeting for legal and personnel matters.

PUBLIC OPEN DISCUSSION:

No Public Open Discussion brought forward for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS: NB-1 Centre Region Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) Review and Future Implementation Priorities

Mr. Bloom offered that as outlined during its development process, the Centre Region Climate Action and Adaption Plan (CAAP) is about how our local governments can play an essential role in preparing our community for the changing climate and be leaders in building a low-carbon community of the future. College Township, along with other municipalities, aid in implementing the CCAP by leading by example, fostering partnerships, creating policy, and helping to disseminate information.

Mr. Bloom recognized the recent 1-year anniversary of the adoption of the CAAP, College Township Council and noted that tonight’s exercise was to fulfill the request from the COG Climate Action and Sustainability Committee (CAS) seeking feedback on the plan and in addition to updates from the municipalities regarding their respective approaches to its implementation. Beyond that, this meeting would serve as an initial step in strategic planning efforts for the upcoming Capital Improvement Program.
To aid Council in their discussion, Councilmember Carla Stilson had previously developed a survey that focused specifically on the CAAP sections:

- Energy & Buildings
- Renewable Energy
- Sustainable Transportation
- Solid Waste
- Land Management
- Clean & Health Water

Following the process utilized for COG Program Plan review, staff provided the initial survey responses and feedback on each of the objectives outlined within each of the sections. Council reviewed the comments offered by staff and provided overarching thoughts and more finite commentary. The following are the comments that College Township Council will offer to the CAS and COG Sustainability Planner Pam Adams:

- Goals and objectives are still very broad in scope, further clarification and definitions may be necessary to make the plan even more actionable.

- Consider prioritization of the goals, objectives and implementation actions. Those elements with the highest real or perceived cost/benefit ratio should be of higher priority.

- In particular, focus upon those adaptation efforts that directly aid in preservation of health, safety and overall well-being of our community.

- Council drew parallels to health care as a way to categorize implementation actions, some adaptation efforts are essentially triage for existing problems, while other strategies outlined in the plan fall in the preventative care category for our community.

- While seeking feedback on the CAAP, it will be important to survey the Authorities and Schools within the region. Many of the implementation actions pertain to them as much or more than the municipalities and they will be key partners in potentially higher yield efforts, the Solar Power Purchasing Agreement (SPPA) as an example.

- Centre County Government will be an important party to the CAAP as well. A number of the objectives and actions require their involvement or are related directly to their programs or operations.

- Many of the objectives and actions in the CAAP make sense for regional implementation, which will quickly exceed the capacity of the current sustainability staff complement. The Centre Region municipalities will need to be mindful that sustainability is a growing element within the overall COG Work Program and make budget allocations accordingly.

- Periodic review and survey of the partners will be a crucial element of the ongoing CAAP efforts.

College Township committed to continue to provide periodic updates to the CAS as it advances its own strategic planning and CAAP implementation efforts.
OTHER MATTERS: No Other Matters were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Trainor moved to adjourn the January 30, 2023, Special College Township Council Meeting. Chair seconded the motion.

The January 30, 2023, Special College Township Council Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Adam T. Brumbaugh

Adam T. Brumbaugh
Township Secretary