



NHSRC

Local & Logical

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What is a County Commissioner? And why does it matter?

We all know what the President does but there are the other locally elected officials that we may not be quite sure what their job description entails. The County Commissioner position may fall under that category for you.

In Bucks County the Board of Commissioners is composed of three commissioners: two from the majority party and one from the minority party and are elected to four-year terms. The commissioners are responsible for the adoption and administration of the County's roughly \$500 million operating budget and oversight of some 2400 full-time employees. There are varied departments under administrative control of the Commissioners, one of which is the Board of Elections.

While you may not have given much thought to who is holding these positions in the past, it certainly came into play during the 2024 election cycle in Bucks County.

Our county made national news prior to the election for early polling places closing hours



prior to their stated ending time with supposed election officials instructing voters to leave polling lines early.

And then after the election, Commissioner Chairperson Diane Ellis-Marseglia (D) blatantly ignored the PA Supreme Court ruling stating that she would vote to accept hundreds of mail-in and absentee ballots that had been incorrectly filled out.

Who we vote into these positions matter and they need to be held accountable.

Fitzpatrick proposes legislation immediately after being sworn into a new term

On the opening day of the 119th Congress, Fitzpatrick introduced a sweeping legislative package designed to restore trust in government, reform Congress, and strengthen the foundations of American democracy.

[Key Highlights of Fitzpatrick's Reform Package](#)

Congressional Accountability

- Senate Filibuster Preservation (Constitutional amendment). Preserves the Senate filibuster in its current form, ensuring bipartisan cooperation in the legislative process.
- Term Limits for Members of Congress (Constitutional amendment). Limits congressional terms to twelve years combined in both chambers, six two-year terms in the House, or two six-year terms in the Senate.
- CLEAN Congress Act. Requires Congress to act on single-issue legislation. Codifies that all laws passed by Congress must apply to its members.
- CLEAN Public Service Act. Ends Congressional pensions.

Fiscal Responsibility

- No Budget, No Pay (Constitutional amendment). Prevents members of Congress from being paid if Congress fails to pass a budget or allows a lapse in appropriations. Goes further than previous iterations of "No Budget, No Pay" by docking pay for time without a budget as opposed to simply putting member salaries in escrow until the end of the term. This measure requires complete forfeiture.
- Balanced Budget Amendment (Constitutional amendment). Requires Congress to adopt a budget that balances like most states, including Pennsylvania, and municipalities.

Electoral Integrity

- Let America Vote Act. Allows access to political party primaries for Independents or non-affiliated voters. Prohibits non-citizens from voting in federal, state, and local elections.
- CLEAN Elections Act. Reforms the broken "Gerrymandering" process by moving all redistricting to independent, non-partisan commissions.
- Restoring Faith In Elections Act. Establishes uniform standards for absentee voting in federal elections and promotes timely reporting of election results. Mail-in ballots must be returned and received by the time polls close on Election Day. Mandatory signature match. Mail-in ballots received prior to the date of the election shall be counted beginning at least one week prior to the date of the election. National deconfliction database – Assist states in ensuring that individual voters are registered only in the one State in which they are domiciled, deceased voters are purged from voting rolls and only citizens of the United States vote. Parity for in-person and mail-in voting – Signature match and verification, prepaid costs, subsidies for methods of voting. Standard procedures across all counties/jurisdictions in States – Standardized and uniform for all jurisdictions in a State including for curing defective ballots.
- Securing Our Elections Act. Ensures election integrity and security by creating a consistent photo identification requirement for voting in federal elections.
- Election Day Act. Establishes Election Day as a federal holiday.

Read the full article on [The Patch](#)

Our Beliefs:

- * A belief in smaller government, and by extension, a belief that the size and reach of the federal government should be limited.
- * A belief that the proper function of government is to provide those few things that have to be done but cannot be done, or done well, by the private sector.
- * A belief in fiscal conservatism, embodied in limited taxation and limited government spending.
- * A belief in strong national defense to preserve the peace and protect our national interests abroad.

welcome!

The New Hope Solebury Republican Club meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7pm.

Contact us for more information:

<https://nhsrc.org/contact-us-1>

SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP UPDATES

A Comprehensive Plan is an official document that serves as a guide to land use decision-making. It is a statement of the community's vision for the future to be used by residents, the Planning Commission, Township Supervisors, private and public stakeholders, and governmental agencies. Solebury's Comprehensive Plan will focus on the quality-of-life issues that are most important to Township residents, reaching consensus on a direction forward, and building local capacity to effect real change.

Solebury Township is in the early stages of updating our 10-year comprehensive plan in a committee process named Solebury 2035.

Get involved and follow along [here](#)

You can still provide input at the link listed above.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Jan 10 & 11 - Fire & Frost Fun @ Peddlers Village
- Jan 17 & 18 - Fire & Frost Fun @ Peddlers Village

Important Dates:

- **Next NHSRC Meeting: January 15, 7pm**
- **Solebury Comprehensive Planning Meeting: January 15, 7pm**

tell a friend

Tell a friend! Forward this information to a like minded neighbor.
And join our mailing list.

OUR BELIEFS

A belief in equal rights, equal justice and equal opportunity for all without regard for race, creed, age, sex or national origin.

* A belief in tolerance, inclusiveness, and optimism that rejects the notion that one must tear down the system in order to change it.

* A belief in the right to disagree on matters of principle and policy, and in the need to be respectful of different points of view.