

PLANNING COMMISSION 2020

MEETING DATE: JULY 15, 2020

Curt English called the meeting to order at 7:36pm. The meeting was held virtually via GoTo Meeting due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic. Members of the Planning Commission in attendance were: Michael Bauer, Michael Pellegrino, Barbara Cohen, David Demey, and Peter Bigelow. Current elected Board of Supervisors also in attendance were: Mark Donovan and Martha Majewski.

Motion was made by Barbara Cohen to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2020 meeting. Mike Bauer seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

A Motion was made by Barbara Cohen to formally acknowledge and accept the resignations of Eric Rahe and Morris Quigg. Motion was seconded by Mike Pellegrino.

David Demey and Peter Bigelow were introduced as the two new members of the Planning Commission. The Board of Supervisors did appoint both at their May 2020 meeting. Barbara Cohen motioned to formally accept David Demey and Peter Bigelow as voting members of the Planning Commission. Mike Bauer seconded.

Proposed Tree Ordinance Discussion

Steve Koontz and Mark Donovan presented a draft tree ordinance that the Township is proposing in addition to the current tree protection standards we currently have in the SALDO. The current tree protection is focused more on new developments, the proposed ordinance expands to include existing residential properties. The Township is trying to prevent clear cutting or properties. Steve Koontz stated that the EAC has discussions back in 2008-2012 regarding a tree ordinance but it was tabled by the Board of Supervisors. It is now being discussed again. The draft ordinance now proposed is less restrictive than the previous draft that the EAC had presented. This is not regulating the removal of one or two trees, it is for larger amounts of tree removals. Barbara Cohen stated that when this was brought to the Planning Commission last year there were many concerns and questions about enforcement and regulations. That is seemed to be a blanket ordinance and that it didn't take into consideration the many different types of properties that we have within the Township. Steve Koontz stated that it does account for different size and types of properties now. Mike Bauer stated that he has worked with Supervisor Susan Guerette and Steve Koontz and this ordinance is much different now than the last proposed tree ordinance. The size of large specimen trees was suggested to be increased from 24" diameter to 30" or 36" diameter, and the number of replacement trees required per tree removed be lowered. Curt English stated that the Planning Commission will submit all comments prior to July 28, 2020 to the Township Manager in order for it to go to the Chester County Planning Commission for their review and then will meet and vote on ordinance after getting the CCPC review.

Transportation Impact Fee Ordinance

Mark Donovan stated that this has been over a year in the making, but the Township now has a newly formed Traffic Committee. The transportation impact fee assesses a \$1,000.00 fee for every peak hour car that is added by a new development. Mark Donovan stated that it will be many months until anything comes before the Planning Commission regarding this new committee.

The Planning Commission will not be meeting in August, 2020.

With no new business to discuss, Curt English made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly J. Yocom

Zoning Officer

The next scheduled Planning Commission meeting is September 16, 2020, at 7:30 pm.