

**Penn Township
Planning Commission Minutes
May 18, 2015**

Members present included: Dan Kuruna, Mike Kuhns, Derek Straub, and Jim Wentzel.

Members Excused: Cornelius Heeren, James Geiswite, Ben Moyer

Also Present: Attorney James Bathgate and Secretary Brenda Moyer

Members of the Public: Harry Berko, Terry Stauffer, Linda Bilger, Marie Snook, Ernest Snook, Natalie Shipman, Isaiah Shipman, Garth Shipman, and Glenn Sassaman.

The May 18, 2015 regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Dan Kuruna.

Public Comment – No public comment

Persons Present to be Heard –

Residents of Fetter Road were present to share their thoughts on a rezoning change on Fetter Road. All residents present were opposed to any zoning change on Fetter Road. Some reasons stated for their opposition included but were not limited to:

- Residents are concerned their way of life would be hindered - if there are more homes surrounding their properties they would have more restrictive hunting.
- Residents explained they live where they do because they want the surroundings they have now.
- Added traffic to Fetter Road would be a concern.
- All adjoining properties were not advised of proposal.
- Extreme concerns about stormwater runoff.
- How close can you build under or near power lines? Residents report three power lines on property
- Residents stated a development would not provide additional taxes to Penn Twp as Penn does not have a RE tax
- Twp would need to consider expense of taking over a road.
- Residents would oppose any modification to Penn Twp's Act 537 Plan.
- 300 members of the neighboring Mid Penn Sportsman's Club are opposed to zoning change. Conflicts could arise over noise coming from the Club. Trying to restrict the noise would hinder their current livelihood.
- Residents noted property owner Larry Wagner is also opposed to any rezoning, had to work until 8pm.
- Noted this is a viable farm, farmer was asked not to farm stating it was going to be developed.
- Adjacent landowners made offer to purchase to show how strongly they want the land to stay the same.
- ROW's and access to the land was questioned.
- Ability for emergency vehicles to access property

Planning member Mike Kuhns arrived at 7:28.

Comments provided by the Penn Twp Planning Commission included:

- PT is in the process of revising ordinances and is currently working on the Zoning Ordinance.
- This is a good to review and consider any changes that would be appropriate to the zoning map.
- Map has never changed a lot.
- If a change were to occur it might represent a change in livelihood etc in an area.
- Changes do not just happen...MPC would be followed for procedure, any proposal would be reviewed and recommendations provided by SCPC, PT PC, properties would be posted, notices published and public hearing(s) would be held.
- Penn Twp does not and had not done any spot zoning.
- Noted a good group of people have presented an alternative opinion to a zoning change.
- NO official request has been made to change zoning for any specific property.
- AG and AG Preservation always foremost in Penn Twp.
- Penn Twp does provide a 'good mix' and are trying to maintain that 'good mix'
- Selling development rights to the county was discussed.

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Residents were reminded of meetings dates, public is always welcome at all meetings, and can certainly call the office at anytime to see what's on agenda.

New Business –

- Consideration for Election Day shall be taken when preparing meeting date schedule in May. If PC meets the on the Monday night before an Election it causes just a bit of inconvenience for all parties involved.

Old Business –

- Ordinance review will resume at the next meeting of the PC.

FYI–

- Central Susquehanna Valley Thruway Kick-off Meeting – Thursday, May 21, 2015 Monroe Twp (2:30-4:30)
- Revised MPC, Planning Series #2 (Planning Commission) and #4 (Zoning), from DCED are available to PC Members. Will provide hard copy for JG, email to DS, MK

With a quorum present, on motion by Mike Kuhns, second by Derek Straub and commission acclamation the April 27, 2015 PC Minutes were approved as presented.

Adjournment

On motion by Jim Wentzel, second Derek Straub, acclamation the 5.18.2015 Penn Township meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.