

Penn Township Planning Commission
Minutes
May 19, 2014

Chairman Dan Kuruna called the 5.19.2014 meeting of the Penn Township Planning Commission to order at 7:03 pm.

Members present included: Derek Straub, Jim Geiswite, Dan Kuruna, Mike Kuhns, Ben Moyer and Cornelius Heeren.

Members absent: Shane Kerstetter

Also Present: Attorney James Bathgate and Brenda Moyer, PC Secretary.

Members of the Public Present: Kenneth R Herman Jr., Tammy Herman, Jan Ritter and Dave Bowersox.

On motion by Jim Geiswite, second Ben Moyer and commission acclamation to approve the 4.28.14 minutes.

Public Comment – Jan Ritter commented it was nice to see a full house.

Persons Present to be Heard

Kenneth R. Herman Jr. was present to discuss his zoning variance request. Mr. Herman is looking for a dimensional variance from front setbacks. Mr. Herman would like to build a new home; currently a stormwater pipe runs underground through his parcel. This pipe does not allow Mr. Herman to set his home as far back from the centerline of the road as the Penn Township Zoning Ordinance requires. Mr. Herman presented the variance application, drawings, and letters from neighbors with no remarks to a variance being granted. Sections 508 (A) and 602 (A) 2 of the Penn Township ordinance both work in favor of Mr. Herman and his variance request.

On motion by Cornelius Heeren, second Jim Geiswite and commission acclamation the Penn Township PC would recommend the Zoning Hearing Board approve the dimensional variance request of Mr. Kenneth R. Herman Jr.

Mr. Herman should provide front setbacks for his neighbors to the zoning hearing board as additional information.

New Business

No new business.

Old Business

There was discussion by planning commission of a proposed Outdoor Wood Fired Boiler Ordinance. PC secretary did contact Monroe Twp who has had a similar ordinance in place since 2008, to see what, if any, issues they have encountered, there were none.

DEP was also contacted to question how responsive DEP would be to any or what kind of complaints if Penn Township were to enacted an ordinance per Dan Villelo at DEP, DEP will not only continue to respond but can enforce a township ordinance under Air Quality Regulation 123.14(h).

Mr. Geiswite did some research on what can be purchased and regulations provided by a seller of these boilers. Jim gathered much information and noted some insurance companies may not insurer homeowners with this type of boiler. Solicitor Bathgate will pare down the enforcement section of the proposed ordinance affording some options for the township prior to enforcement. **On motion by Jim Geiswite, second by Cornelius Heeren and PC acclamation, the draft version of the Outdoor Wood-Fired Boiler Ordinance will be presented to the Supervisors at the 6/4/14 meeting for review.** If a final version can be agreed upon the ordinance shall be submitted to SCPC for review, ordinance shall be properly advertised, and a public hearing shall be held prior to final adoption.

The Submission Lists – The lists provided by assistant zoning officer, Jim Geiswite, at the previous meeting were provided to each PC member. PC members will review and 'add to' the lists for next meeting.

Jim Geiswite will work on the SDLD steps for submission list.

Secretary will redo the zoning permit list.

Selinsgrove Center – Rep Fred Keller has indicated a MediCare call center is a possibility at the center. DPW may be working on a cost analysis.

The May 19, 2014 Planning Commission meeting was adjourned at 9:12 on motion by Jim Geiswite, second by Cornelius Heeren and acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Moyer
Planning Commission Secretary