

Springfield Township, Bucks County
Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

January 3, 2017

Supervisors Present: Karen Bedics, David Long, Volker Oakey, Rob Zisko and John Oehler.

Also present: Scott MacNair (solicitor), Michael Brown (Township Manager), Debbie Godshall (Treasurer) and Mike McDonald (police chief). Chairperson Long called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Oehler, seconded by Ms. Bedics, to approve the December 13th minutes. In favor—Bedics, Long, Oehler, Oakey. Abstain—Zisko. Motion carries.

Business

Resolution 2017-01; Assuming Winter Road Maintenance for California Road—The Board directed the Township Manager to inquire whether PennDot would accept a 2 year versus a 5 year agreement.

Revisions to Chapter 155, Article XI (Nonconformities) and Chapter 155, Section 404.H.1 (accessory apartments)—The Board discussed Version 11 of Article XI, endorsed by the Planning Commission in June 2016. The Board directed that a provision be added that allows a lot that is nonconforming due to size can be developed via Special Exception provided the dimensional requirements can be met, the use is allowed in the zoning district, and the lot is not eligible for compulsory merging. The Board discussed Version 3 of Section 404.H.1 endorsed by the Planning Commission in May 2016. The Board directed that the qualifier “habitable space” be struck when computing the 50% size limit of the primary dwelling.

Revisions to Chapter 155, Article IX, Signs—The Board discussed Version 5.1, endorsed by the Planning Commission in December 2016. The Board directed the following:

- Section 905.I.1—Strike the first sentence prohibiting flashing, animated, or intermittent illumination.
- Section 905.I.2—Strike paragraph prohibiting novelty signs.
- Section 905.I.7—Strike paragraph prohibiting vehicular signs.
- Section 905.I.8—Strike prohibition of festoon lighting, keep prohibition of beacon lighting.
- Section 906.F—Increase maximum height for off-lot advertising signs to 25 feet.

Revisions to Chapter 155, Section 404.H.8, Residential Accessory Structures—The Board endorsed the Planning Commission’s recommendation dated December 8, 2016 for consistency with Home Based Business regulations.

Revisions to Chapter 91, Fire Protection—The Board opted not to adopt the standard International Fire Code to replace the BOCA Fire Prevention Code. The Board opted to adopt the DEP model ordinance on outdoor wood-fired boilers. Mr. Zisko objected. The Board tabled discussion on the DEP model ordinance on open burning.

Public Comment

Sue Ziegler thanked the Board for committing to substantial funding of the park and rec function for future years.

Hans Reimann thanked the Board for supporting the activities of the Authorities, Boards and Commissions.

Meeting adjourned at 9:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Michael J. Brown, Township Manager

Approved: 01/24/2017