

MINUTES

August 5, 2019

Milford Township Building
560 Route 6 & 209, Milford PA
7:00 p.m.

A scheduled meeting of Milford Township Supervisors was called to order at 7 P.M. by Chairman Gary Clark. Also present were Vice-Chair Penney Luhrs, Supervisor Gary M. Williams, Zoning Officer Shawn Bolles, Solicitor Anthony Magnotta, and Assistant Secretary Shahana Shamim.

A motion was made by Gary M. Williams, seconded by Penney Luhrs, and passed to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Receipts since last meeting: Zoning Permits \$50.00, building \$42.90, Right-to-Know request \$6.00, Zoning Ordinance request \$9.25, Code Inspections \$197.00, PLGIT interest \$270.62, Investment Interest \$26.76, monthly budget, Closed the Wayne General Account

Roadmaster:

The Roadmaster reported that one of the road crews had been on vacation, and the other two part time road crews were working on some drainage problems in Moon Valley Road. He added that these crews were working on Fire Tower Road also.

Zoning:

Shawn Bolles reported that he had issued permits for an in-ground pool, a shed, and a garage. He added that these permits were issued in June and July. He also informed that he had sent a violation letter to Key Food, as its dumpster had been leaking. He continued that some of their garbage bags were left outside the dumpster for weeks. Shawn further informed that he had received a complaint about three abandoned vehicles, which were parked on a property. He added that he had checked those vehicles and found two of those in good shape. He informed that he would answer to that complaint.

Public Participation:

Rachel Hendricks asked for an update about the question of whether the Township would be forced to extend the Central Public Sewage if the proposed Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance of Mixed-use was approved. The Solicitor explained that the effectiveness of this proposed Amendment would depend on the Extension of the Public Central Sewage. The acreage requirement would go down with the availability of the Central Sewage. The Solicitor continued that although the Proposed Amendment would be applicable on the availability of the Central Sewage, this Amendment will not force the Township to implement the Extension of the Public Central Sewage. Rachel Hendricks handed some information from Lincoln Land Institute about Tax Increment Financing (TIF). She said that that information flyer explained the effects of TIF district. She added that that flyer also explained TIF's effect on the rest of the properties in the Township.

Correspondence:

Shahana presented correspondences from Legal, NEPA Alliance, Federal Highway Administration, Pike County Planning, EMS, Pike County Area Agency on Aging, PCDC, Pike County Conservation District, NEPA, Planning Board, Pike County Tax Administration, and PSATS, Liberty Flags, Insurance, PSATS, and Sewage Enforcement Official.

Shahana read the third quarter Planning Commission situation report, which was sent by Mr. James SeChrist, the Chairman of Planning Board. In this report, Mr. SeChrist explained the current activities and some potential issues. He pointed out that the current Planning Board had developed a Master Tracker for the annual report and a timeline for reviewing/revising the Comprehensive Plan. According to the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (PMPC), these activities are minimal requirements of section 207, which is the conduct of business and section 209.1, which is Powers and Duties of Planning Agency. The previous Planning Commission did not perform these duties. Mr. SeChrist's report also revealed that the Pike County Planning Commission had been very inconsistent with their reviews and comments. He gave two examples, the County comments about the proposed Amendment to the mixed-use Zoning Ordinance and the Snyder Farm Lot Consolidation. The County had commented on the existing ordinance language, which was not even being amended. The comments of 18-80-01 showed that the County had no issues with parcel being divided by 3,000 square feet, but the County was having issues after the number of multi-family housings per parcel was limited for complying with the County. The quality of County review format was poor, and the lower level review for Snyder Farm Lot Consolidation was overridden.

Old Business:

- a. Kennels Ordinance: The Solicitor handed the amended Kennels Ordinance, which was approved by the Supervisors on July 15, 2019. The Supervisors signed it, and the Solicitor said that this signed amendment would have to be sent to Pike County Law Library.
- b. Mixed-use Amendment - Pike County Comments: Gary Clark said that the Pike County comments regarding the Amendment to the Mixed-use Ordinance was very controversial. He added that the Planning Board had made a 40-page document to address all the 11 comments, which were sent previously by Pike County Planning. Mr. Clark continued that Pike County had sent another 14 comments on July 24, 2019. The Solicitor added that the letter from Mr. Sechrist which was read in correspondence outlined that the comments from Pike County Planning were controversial. The Solicitor further added that some portions of the Zoning Ordinance Sections 409.2, 409.4 & 409.6 which were asked by the County to be clarified were not even amended as part of the Amendment. Further, some of the comments made by the County Planning Commission were with respect to language that exist in the Ordinance which is not even being amended. The Solicitor said that the Planning Commission had recommended their approval in their meeting of July 23, 2019, and the County's comments were sent by email to the Township on July 24, 2019. He had to postpone the hearing for this Amendment, as the County's letter had asked to submit the revisions for the County's review again. He suggested the Supervisors to allow Mr. SeChrist to meet with Pike County Planning officials. Gary Clark made a motion to allow Mr. SeChrist, the Chairman of the Planning Board, to meet with Pike County Planning to discuss these discrepancies, Gary M. Williams seconded, and it was passed unanimously.

Rachel Hendricks inquired if the 40-page support document for the proposed Amendment to the Mixed-use Zoning Ordinance was complete, as it had some requests to the Members and Shawn Bolles, the Zoning Officer, for their thoughts and validation. Mr. Clark replied that the thoughts of the Members and the Zoning Officer were incorporated to address eleven comments from Pike County Planning (dated April 30, 2019), and the updated proposal for the Amendment to the Mixed-use Zoning Ordinance was sent back to Pike County.

New Business:

- a. Resolution of the Fee Schedule August 2019: Shawn Bolles, the Zoning Officer, handed the new draft fee schedule. The Solicitor made a minor correction to it, and said that for the Hearings, there should not be any charges for Engineers, Solicitors, and Professional Planners. Gary Clark made a motion to this resolution with this change, Gary M. Williams seconded, and it was passed unanimously. Mr. Clark said that the Zoning Officer would receive 50% of the Zoning fees.
- b. Gary M. Williams declared that Kevin Mann, one of the Assistant Chiefs of Milford Fire Department, was hired as a full time Firefighter in Wilkes Barre. Gary M. Williams made a motion to send congratulations to him, Gary Clark seconded, and it was passed unanimously.

Public Comments:

Rachel Hendricks inquired about contacting Milford Water Authority for doing some repairs on Old Owego Road. Mr. Williams replied that some work, such as, grass seeds, manhole, etc. were done in the upper part of Old Owego Road up to the Pinchot's. He added that they got permission from Conservation District for doing that work.

Amy Eisenberg inquired about the timeline for the hearing of the proposed Amendment to the Mixed-use Zoning Ordinance. The Supervisors replied that a date for the Hearing would be set after the Township Planning Commission meets with Pike County Planning to resolve aforementioned discrepancies. The Solicitor added that the Hearing would need to be advertised twice between 7-30 days before the Hearing. He further said that the Supervisors cannot authorize for the advertisement until they hear back from Pike County Planning. Gary Clark made a motion for canceling the Public Hearing, which was scheduled to be held on August 19, 2019, Penney Luhrs seconded, and it was passed unanimously.

There were no other businesses or executive sessions needed, so a motion was made by Gary Clark to pay the bills and adjourn. Gary M. Williams seconded to it, and it was passed unanimously. Adjournment was at 7:42 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Shahana Shamim

Assistant Secretary