

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

June 1, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Meeting was called to order by Dean Roney at 7:00PM. Members present were: Sandy Anderson, Pete Dion, Jeff Meeder, Adam Reese and Dean Roney. We have a quorum. Also in attendance is Lisa Valimont, Township Secretary/Zoning Administrator, Supervisor Clay Brocious, Allison Brocious, Chuck & Ryan Frey.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Pete Dion made a motion to approve the minutes of the Jan. 6, 2020 organizational meeting. Jeff Meeder seconded the motion. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Adam Reese made a motion to approve the minutes of the Jan. 6, 2020 regular meeting. Pete Dion seconded the motion. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Year to date zoning permit report was reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion on service animals and zoning requirements. The horses in question have been removed from the location on Peiper Rd. Adam Reese reviewed his findings regarding the information he found on dogs & mini horses being used as service animals.

A “therapy” horse could be defined as: a horse that serves in **Equine-assisted therapy (EAT)** encompasses a range of treatments that involve activities with horses and other equines to promote human physical and mental health.

“**Service animals**” physically help and individual, such as a “seeing eye dog”. While they have training to do this work, there is no standard, various groups provide this training and again there is no certification. The animal is a dog or miniature horse. Also, “service animals” both “service dogs” and “service horse” (again which are only miniature horses) must be house broken.

“**Emotional support animals**” provide comfort to an individual generally with a mental handicap, mental health issue and/or behavior/emotional disturbance disorder. A variety of animals (virtually any animal) May fill this role and it may or may not have any training. There is no certification. The individual does need some documentation from a treating professional about the need for the animal.

Very little found about a municipality interacting with individuals that have these animals. Most of what was found dealt with land lords. Land lords can ask for what documentation an individual may have for an “emotional support animal” but may not ask for medical records.

If this issue had continued, the Township would need to have a legal opinion from the solicitor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review sketch plan for subdivision for Charles Frey, Northwest Gravel, parcel index #24-8-63-4.01. Discussed different solutions for dividing the land within the Township’s zoning requirements, for Ryan Frey to build on.

A 50' road right of way with a cul-de-sac would be needed and a PennDot HOP approval.

OTHER:

Country Gardens stormwater project is almost complete. A developer's agreement has been signed for the sewer project connecting to Lake City sewer lines.

From Clay – the Township has purchased the Platz home across the parking lot for \$25,000. The fire company will be burning/demolishing it, using it as training. The road will be vacated and will adjoin the lots.

The Westgate storm water project – the 1st phase is complete and will be looking for grants to continue with more stormwater line replacement.

ANY BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR NOT DISCUSSED:

No increase in school taxes.

County and Township property taxes can be paid at face value until Dec 31st 2020.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Sandy Anderson and seconded by Jeff Meeder to adjourn at 8:30 pm.
All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Anderson