

Reading Township Planning Commission
Regular meeting

October 7, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Reading Township Planning Commission was held at the Reading Township Municipal Building and called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman John Biese. Planning Commission members in attendance were Dana Shuman, William Bowen and Gerald Shank with Chairman Biese presiding.

Others in attendance included P. Eric Mains, P.E. of Gannett Fleming, Inc.; Andrew Merkel, Senior Planner for Adams County Office of Planning & Development; Attorney Victor Neubaum, Solicitor; Kevin Holtzinger; Alivia Spahr; Don Godfrey; Becky Mitchell; Keith Shue; Jason Phillips; Barry & Marcia Weaver.

The September 4, 2019 minutes were approved as written on a motion by Mr. Bowen and a second by Ms. Shuman, motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Holtzinger stated that the Board of Supervisors submitted a letter to PADOT requesting a traffic study due to the number accidents along SR-234. A response letter was just received from PADOT indicating they will contact the Township to schedule a meeting to review the concerns.

Ms. Weaver mentioned that a letter of memorandum was received at the September Board of Supervisors meeting concerning the Hampton Ballfields, but no additional updates have been provided at this time.

Chairman Biese announced to those in attendance that Adams County is considering dividing Reading Township into three voting districts in time for the 2020 presidential election.

SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT

There were no subdivision or land development requests at this time.

ZONING HEARING

There were no Zoning Hearing Board requests at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Rezoning Options

The Planning Commission acknowledged receipt of a letter from Mr. Robert Thaeler, Principal Planner of the Adams County Office of Planning and Development that provided an advisory review pertaining to the potential amendments to the Reading Township Zoning Districts Map and the three proposals presented for consideration. Mr. Merkel provided a verbal response to

the letter submitted by Attorney Neubaum at the recommendation of the Planning Commission at the September 4, 2019 meeting and gave a summary overview of the seven page review letter from the county. Due to the fact the review letter arrived just prior to the start of the Planning Commission meeting, Chairman Biese made the motion to table any discussion on the district rezoning options until the November meeting to provide time for the Planning Commission to carefully review the content of the letter. Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Holtzinger requested the discussion of the rezoning options continue and asked Mr. Merkel to provide additional details of the county review letter. Mr. Merkel stated the entire county review letter is a public record and available to anyone who desires to read the details of the county's considerations and recommendations.

Mr. Holtzinger stated for the record that several people have expressed concern to him about the lack of Commercial/Industrial districts within Reading Township. Mr. Shue echoed a similar concern as he is attempting to purchase 1-2 acres of land to build a 5,000 square foot auto body shop and employ 3 people, but the Township has no parcels available to him. Chairman Biese reminded those in attendance that the Planning Commission has previously recommended to the Board of Supervisors a proposed plan that would increase the Commercial/Industrial District in Reading Township and that proposal has been forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for consideration.

Mr. Holtzinger asked additional questions and requested input from Attorney Neubaum. In response, Attorney Neubaum reminded Mr. Holtzinger that this discussion has been tabled by the Planning Commission until the November meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Shank and a second by Ms. Shuman; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Garry R. Wilt
Administrative Assistant