

July 2, 2014
7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Monroe Township Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Steve Paulus. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

ATTENDANCE

Steve Paulus, Chairman	Mike Pykosh, Solicitor
Sheldon Brymesser, Vice-Chairman	
Sharon Nelson, Secretary	Marjorie Metzger, Secretary
Dave DeNicholas	
Jose Napen	

MINUTES

On the motion of Ms. Nelson, and seconded by Mr. Paulus, and by unanimous vote of the members it was duly RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2014 regular meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE None

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

AGRICULTURE SECURITY REQUEST

A request for three separate parcels has been submitted. One parcel of 62.64 acres at 1167 York Road is owned by John and Diane Stamy. One parcel of 14.84 acres along York Road is owned by John and Diane Stamy. One parcel of 22.55 acres at the intersection of Park Place and York Road is owned by Ian and Melanie Stamy.

Part of the process was to contact the Cumberland County Planning Department and the township engineer. Both have supplied reports of their reviews. Both reports indicate the soils are of the quality that meet the criteria. The County said the requests are compatible with their Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Napen asked if marijuana is legalized, can that be planted in this township. Mr. Pykosh said it would have to be legalized first.

Mr. Pykosh reviewed the evaluation criteria list.

Mr. DeNicholas asked if anyone did a review on the criteria list. Mr. Paulus said these tracts of land have been before the Planning Commission before as subdivisions. The farmer has now purchased the land to keep it in agriculture.

Mr. Napen asked who decides what crops are planted on a farm. Mr. Pykosh said the farmer. Mr. Brymesser said there are certain conservation practices that must be in place, such as a nutrient management plan, considering the contours, rotation of crops, erodible land, slopes, and so on.

Mr. Brymesser said the agriculture security does add protection for eminent domain in the future. It is added protection for the farmer. There are also opportunities for better interest rates on certain types of loans for equipment and buildings.

On the motion of Ms. Nelson, and seconded by Mr. DeNicholas, and by unanimous vote of the members it was duly RESOLVED to recommend approval of the three requests for inclusion in the agriculture security area of Monroe Township.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION None

STAFF COMMENTS None

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie E. Metzger, Administrative Assistant