

THE TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AND THE TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION  
JOINT MEETING  
MARCH 20, 2018

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The March 2018 Joint Meeting of the Tobyhanna Township Board of Supervisors and Tobyhanna Township Planning Commission was held on March 20, 2018, at the Tobyhanna Township Government Center Building, 105 Government Center Way, Pocono Pines, Pennsylvania, 18350.

Present are Anne Lamberton, John Holahan, III, Heidi A. Pickard, Brendon Carroll, David Carbone, Mark Sincavage, Michelle Bisbing, Patricia Rinehimer, Solicitor Jonathan J. Reiss, Esquire, and Township Manager John Jablowski Jr.

1. Chairs Anne Lamberton and Mark Sincavage call the meeting to order at 4:05PM. It is determined that a quorum is present.
2. Public Comment – none.
3. New Business
  - a. Brief update on Wireless Communication Facilities (WCF) Ordinance. Barbara Nichols states that she is waiting for comments from the Commission, and will then check definitions and send it back to the attorney, so it can be available for the next Commission meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Mark Sincavage states that the only comments he received were from himself. He suggests allowing towerless facilities in Commercial in Commercial Industrial until the other zoning districts are created.
  - b. Blakeslee Village (BV) Districts Proposed Ordinance. Jonathan Reiss states that the SALDO and zoning amendments for Blakeslee Village are ready for public hearing, but the sign amendment still needs to be prepared. The Monroe County planning Commission commented that there was no sign plan, and that is what is holding it up from advertisement for a public hearing. There is general confusion concerning the timeline of approval for the different changes and district creations. Jonathan Reiss states that the Blakeslee Village SALDO and Zoning amendments, and sign ordinance must be up for public hearing on the same night. Barbara Nichols presents a map of districts to the township, and states that any properties owned by the township will be designated as Municipal Government (MG). Concerning the Blakeslee Village sign plan, Maureen Minnick drew up something, though it is not clear if the plan was ever edited. Mike Christian states that pump toppers are not allowed, clarifies that everyone wants feather flags banned, and yard sales signs are considered temporary. He changed CVEM signs to say that they are permitted in permitted districts. Jonathan Reiss states that the change is a problem, because the resort district does not have that definition for that type of sign. He suggests naming the resort and entertainment districts, and stating that the signs are allowed in any other district where permitted to cover any districts. Once the sign ordinance is adopted, new districts will be added to it

as they are created. Barbara Nichols clarifies that she will take the October version of the sign ordinance and apply any changes to that. The Board and Commission agree. Jonathan Reiss states that the sign ordinance will only name the districts that currently exist, as well as the Blakeslee Village districts because they will presumably be adopted on the same night. As the Board adds new districts, they will have to amend the sign ordinance.

Mark Sincavage asks about the status for highway commercial. Barbara Nichols states that there is a small write up on that, and the district is only along I-80 and I-380. The Commission and Board decide to reach out to business and property owners for their input. Patricia Rinehimer leaves at 4:31PM.

John Holahan if there is any update concerning Jack Varaly. Barbara Nichols replies that she was scheduled to meet with him tomorrow, but that meeting is postponed due to snow. Varaly has not yet discussed changes along SR 940 with her.

Mark Sincavage states that the point of this joint meeting was to create better continuity on projects between the Board and Commission. The WCF Ordinance is ready for April 5, the BV district is ready to move on, and must be adopted the same evening as the sign ordinance. The sign ordinance is being worked on by Barbara Nichols, but will be prepared for April 5. Digital signs are allowed at the ends of the township, but will be absent on SR 940.

Mike Christian suggests mandating digital signs change every one, five, or ten minutes. If there are seven signs along a road and they change every seven seconds, there is potential for flashing. The Commission and the Board agree.

Barbara Nichols states that digital signs will be allowed only in Highway Commercial, Resort, and PCRED Districts. Anne Lamberton states that digital signs have distances and timing mandated by PennDOT.

- c. Tobyhanna Township Sign Ordinance. This was discussed in conjunction with Item B, and was thus skipped.
  - d. Proposed New Districts/ District Re-designation. Barbara Nichols states that she provided the Commission and Board with a map showing the proposed new districts. Jonathan Reiss states that all new district creation can be done all at once. John Holahan motions to direct the staff to start working on the new proposed districts, Heidi Pickard seconds. Vote: motion carries.
  - e. Fee schedule. Barbara Nichols states that this was discussed during the Board of Supervisors regular business meeting, and can thus be skipped.
4. Open Discussion – none.
  5. Public Comment – none.

6. Mark Sincavage adjourns the Planning Commission, John Holahan motions to adjourn the Board; meeting adjourned at 4:43PM.

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Minutes recorded by Julia Heilakka

Respectfully submitted:

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Julia Heilakka, Township Secretary