

PIKE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, February 27, 2023

Minutes

The February 27, 2023 Pike County Planning Commission meeting was held in the Pike County Planning Office Conference Room and via Zoom/Conference Call.

Present: Dennis Brink, Charles Burnett(late), Mary Ann Conza, Keith Raser, Kevin Stroyan, Fred Suljic(Zoom), Frank Tarquinio, and Commissioner Ron Schmalzle.

Staff: Planning staff present: Mike Mrozinski, Jessica Yoder, and Brian Snyder.

CALL TO ORDER – The Meeting was called to order at 3:00pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS – none

ACTION ON MINUTES: January 23, 2023 – **Motion** made by Mary Ann Conza, seconded by Frank Tarquinio. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

MONTHLY PLANNING REPORT

Correspondence/Meetings/Seminars/Workshops/Items of Interest – List circulated on the back of the Agenda. Mike announced that the Planning Account Audit for 2022 was satisfactory. Matamoras Borough is participating in a “Partners for Places” grant to study the stormwater system and provide recommendations for improvements. An additional 1,088 acres are officially added and accessible. Lands are added to SGL #180 in Shohola Township. PMVB Beautification Grants are available with an application deadline of 3/3. The maximum grant is \$40k with a 50% match requirement. Spongy Moth spray blocks were approved primarily in Porter Township and around Promised Land State Park. Small additional blocks exist in Lackawaxen and Blooming Grove. Spraying is limited to state lands. A PaDEP grant will be submitted for \$7,778.18 as reimbursement for Michael’s time and expenses administering the Solid Waste/Recycling program for Pike County.

Financial Report: \$ 460.00 in income from January 20 through February 24, 2023.

Plan Review Report: there were 11 Plan Reviews from January 20 through February 24, 2023. They consisted of 9 Lot Consolidations/Lot Improvements; 1 Minor Subdivision; 1 Zoning Map, and 1 Zoning Ordinance Amendment as listed on the back of the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Shawnee Walker 69kV Transmission Line – Michael mentioned that he received the responses to a few questions from the meeting held in Delaware Township. Additional questions are still unanswered. A follow up meeting is scheduled for March 28th at 6pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Planning Office relocation – Michael updated that plans are progressing on the upcoming office location move to the Administration Building. The move is anticipated to occur late April with a May 1st opening.

PROJECTS & UPDATES

Preservation Programs

Agricultural Land Preservation (ALP) – Jessica discussed the approved certification of funds for the program. This is the Clean & Green rollback tax interest. State funds total \$277,314 with a grand total of approximately \$300,000 for the program. A mailer was sent to Ag Security landowners. The mailer describes opportunities available to them.

Scenic Rural Character Preservation (SRCP) – Jessica reported that the Board updated the bylaws to accommodate the change of membership and to provide a change in the goals of the board. The SRCP program provided \$25,000 towards the property acquisition in Shohola Township.

Grant Programs

Pike Comprehensive Plan Update – Mike updated on the success of the 5 focus group meetings that were held on February 8th and 9th at the Pike County Training Center. The survey will be populated with the outcomes from those focus group meetings. The survey is anticipated in the April-May timeframe.

Pike County Open Space Plan Update – Jessica mentioned that comments were received from DCNR. The study committee is still under development. Municipal and County Planning Commission member is still needed. Mike asked for interest from the Commission. Frank expressed his interest to participate.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – PDM Grant – Project complete – this topic will be removed from the agenda.

Kintz Creek High Hazard Dam – Mike reported that a meeting has been scheduled between Pike County and Wynooska Club – scheduled for March 31st. Additional funding is needed. A \$500k grant will be sought for anticipated cost escalation.

Pike County Tick Borne Disease Task Force Initiatives – Brian reported that the Art Contest will be held again this year. Prizes and presentation to the winners will occur at the Commissioners meeting.

Pike County Road Task Force – Mike mentioned at US209 is closed for test borings. US209 will be paved from mm13-21 this year. The Long-Range plan and the Freight study are underway.

Solid Waste/Recycling Update – Mike reported that the County met with Milford Borough on the Bennett Avenue site to discuss plans for the renovations including transportation, recycling, and document archive. Conditional use process will be further discussed at a late date. Jess added that the Keep NEPA Beautiful group is developing a cleanup on April 1st. Dumpsites are being sought with funding available.

PLAN & ORDINANCE REVIEWS

Milford Twp Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Brian stated that the amendment allows for outside storage of materials and machinery within the setbacks. Kevin clarified that the amendment would allow contractors appropriate storage options.

Milford Township Zoning Map – Brian stated that the planning office is working with the township to re-create the township's old map. Mike added that the project relates to the Township's project for a comprehensive rezoning project.

Milford Township Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance – Mike updated that this is a continuation from last month. Extensive comments were developed and forwarded to Tom Shepstone.

MISCELLANEOUS – None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by MaryAnn Conza to adjourn, seconded by Frank Tarquinio. All in favor. **Motion passed.**