

**PIKE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**Monday, June 26, 2023**

The June 26, 2023 Pike County Planning Commission meeting was held in the Pike County Administration Building, Commissioners Meeting Room and via Zoom/Conference Call.

**Present:** Mary Ann Conza, Keith Raser, Fred Suljic, Frank Tarquinio, David Zeiler and Commissioner Ron Schmalzle(Zoom).

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

**CALL TO ORDER** – The Meeting was called to order at 3:01pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS** – none

**ACTION ON MINUTES: March 27, 2023** – **Motion** made by Mary Ann Conza, seconded by Fred Suljic. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

**MONTHLY PLANNING REPORT**

**Correspondence/Meetings/Seminars/Workshops/Items of Interest** – List circulated on the back of the Agenda. Mike described the recent award of Monroe LSA Casino grants – Pike County Recycling Center - \$300,000; Milford Fire Department Breathing Apparatus - \$75,000; Westfall Police Vehicle - \$48,000. US Census estimates released for 2022 show ~2-3% increase in population in every Pike County municipality. This mirrors the County estimate that showed a 3.5% increase in population. US209 paving will take place from mile marker 13 to 21 through the Great American Outdoors Grant and US6 paving continues from the Well Road to Rt507. A closure is planned for Rt739 at US6 for this summer. SR2001 bridge closure detour continues.

**Financial Report:** \$ 1,730.00 in income from March 24 through June 23, 2023.

**Plan Review Report:** there were 33 Plan Reviews from March 24 through June 23, 2023. They consisted of 22 Lot Consolidations/Lot Improvements; 2 Land Developments; 5 Minor Subdivisions; and 4 Zoning Ordinance Amendments as listed on the back of the agenda. Keith inquired about the number of plans and income. Mike elaborated that this was above average for the time-span and we are ahead of last year’s plans and income.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Shawnee Walker 69kV Transmission Line** – Michael mentioned the Listening Session that was held on March 28. No answers were provided. Dingman and Delaware are opposed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Planning & Mapping Office** – Michael updated that the move is complete. Members were urged to visit the office just down the hall after the meeting.

**DCED Broadband Infrastructure Grant** – This is a major grant that Blue Ridge is seeking for areas in Pike County. Municipalities were contacted to identify locations that have limited or no service. Verizon is also looking to expand into Pike County via this grant as well.

**Business Incubator** – Seeking grant funding for possibly improving the Shohola site for a business incubator. A pre-application was submitted for startup funding. We are still looking into funding and logistics and a feasibility plan.

**PROJECTS & UPDATES**

**Preservation Programs**

**Agricultural Land Preservation (ALP)** – Jessica discussed the mailing and feedback from farmers. Information from NRCS and PCCD programs were provided. Yearly site visits of preserved farms will be scheduled shortly.

**Scenic Rural Character Preservation (SRCP)** – Jessica reported the NEPA Trails Forum that will be held at PEEC. The SRCP board also initiated a mailing to municipalities on remaining funding for planning initiatives. The new GeoSeries – Geocache locations were re-vamped with awards for locating the geocache from all sites.

### **Grant Programs**

**Pike Comprehensive Plan Update** – Mike updated that the survey is complete, and the results document is being refined by the consultant. The Community Collaboration Meetings (public meetings) are being discussed. Consensus from the Steering Committee is to hold 3 sessions over 2 days at the three school districts. This will be scheduled in conjunction with the NEPA Long Range Transportation Plan in seeking public concerns regarding PennDOT and general transportation concerns.

**Pike County Open Space Plan Update** – Jessica mentioned that the Commissioners appointed the 12-member study committee. The RFP is now set to release and we hope to have a consultant on board shortly to begin the plan process. The agreement with Wyooska Club is still outstanding.

**Kintz Creek High Hazard Dam** – Mike updated that the grant numbers have been updated and the County applied for an additional \$500k due to construction cost escalation.

**Pike County Tick Borne Disease Task Force** – Brian reported that he provided on-site tick education to camps in Pike County. A Tick-Talk walk is being held by Hemlock Farms in August.

**Pike County Road Task Force** – Keith updated on the group from Shohola Township regarding the condition of Bee Hollow Rd. PennDOT promised a 2024 paving project. There is issue with school busses being reluctant to travel that roadway.

**Solid Waste/Recycling Update** – Mike reported that there is a 904 grant available to municipalities for recycling equipment. 902 grant for salary reimbursement is still pending. The 2022 report shows a deficiency for Dingman Township due to a lack of a leaf & lawn waste program.

### **PLAN & ORDINANCE REVIEWS**

**Milford Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment - Wellhead Protection** - Brian stated that the intent is to protect community wells and protect the aquifer. The township reference a stormwater plan and not a source-water protection plan.

**Milford Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Job Box** - Brian described the proposal allows for placement on a job site for a limited time period.

**Lackawaxen Zoning Ordinance Amendment – UDC Zone Conditional Uses** - Brian updated that any structure within 100’ would be a conditional use according to the River Management Plan.

**Lackawaxen Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Boat/Gold Cart/RV Storage** – Brian described the proposal as clearing up a previously undefined section.

**Tejrishi Land Development – Matamoras** – On US6 and Sixth Street. The proposal includes razing the existing building and constructing a new retail building and gas station with a drive-through. One major issue is the existence of another smoke shop 300’ away. Access, HOP, permits and deliveries are of concern.

**MISCELLANEOUS** – Jessica updated on the Homeowners Resource Event scheduled for Friday July 21<sup>st</sup> at the Brookfield Environmental Education Center from 12pm to 4pm. Also, information is being sought for a Pike & Wayne County “Tear-off Map” showing recreation-related options.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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