



# TOWAMENSING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

## 2014 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES:

**Travis Kuntzman, 75 Getz Dawl Road, Palmerton, PA - Conditional Use Presentation**

**Date:** May 28, 2014      **Time:** 7:00 p.m.      **Place:** Township Municipal Building  
**Members Present:** Connie Bieling – Chairperson; Rick Mertz – Vice-Chairman; Board Members – David Beers, Jim Shafer, George White; David DelGrosso; Brenda Drew – Secretary, Jenny Cheng – Solicitor; Carl Faust – Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer.

**Members Excused:** Greg Haas - Township Engineer.

**Guests:** Dick Bieling, Barbara Scherer, Philip Scherer, Travis Kuntzman, Ken Hanson, Jeff Schwarz, Sue Schwarz.

|   | DISCUSSION  | ACTION  |
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| <b>Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag</b> |   | The Planning Commission meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.  |
| <b>Presentation:</b>                    | Travis Kuntzman gave a verbal presentation of his proposal to build a sawmill at 75 Getz Dawl Rd. He also provided drawings of the existing structures on the property and photographs of the type of mill he plans to install. The sawmill will be for his own use, as a hobby, with no employees and will be for the sole purpose of cutting trees into planks. He will build a structure to house the mill and properly collect all wood waste products for proper disposal or re-use. The mill will be powered by a farm tractor and will have no excessive exterior illumination. Mr. Kuntzman also agreed to limited hours of operation, including no use on Sundays. | The Planning Commission recommended conditional approval of the request to build a sawmill.   |
| <b>Discussion:</b>                      | Residents Ken Hanson, Jeff Schwarz and Sue Schwarz expressed concerns about noise levels, exterior illumination, volume of traffic and business, duration of noise, and hours of operation. There was also the request that Mr. Kuntzman be willing to correct any future problems which may arise. All parties agreed that with limited hours, an enclosed structure and if the property is not being run as a business, they would be satisfied. Barbara and Philip Scherer, parents of Mr. Kuntzman and owners of adjoining property expressed support for the project. Carl Faust discussed what is allowed to occur on the property as a                               | Planning Commission recommends approval of the sawmill with conditions. A letter containing conditions is to be drafted and forwarded to Township Supervisors and Mr. Kuntzman after the conclusion of the meeting. |

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|                    | conditional use sawmill.   |   |
| <b>Adjournment</b> | Solicitor Cheng recommended adjournment in order to summarize the list of conditions discussed during the presentation and discussion. | Motion made by David Beers to adjourn the Special Planning Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Rick Mertz. A.I.F. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m. |

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda L. Drew