



TOWAMENSING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

2014 MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 10, 2014

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Township Municipal Building

Members Present: Connie Bieling, Chairperson; Rick Mertz, Vice-Chairman; Board Members - George White, Dave Beers, James Shafer and David DelGrosso; Jenny Cheng, Solicitor; Gregory Haas, Township Engineer; Carl Faust, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer; Brenda Drew, Secretary.

Members Excused:

Guests: Roy Christman, George Karas, Donna & Robert Coleman, Barry Schaffer, Lynn Rudelitch, Penny Kleintop, Thomas Newman, Guy Seifert, Melvin & Lisa Oxenreider, Tiffany Schleicher, Chris Maxwell, Cory & Melissa Mohr

	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag	None	The Planning Commission meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
Approval of the Minutes:	None	Connie Bieling called for a motion to approve the October 6, 2014 minutes. Motion made by George White to approve, seconded by James Shafer. A.I.F.
Public Participation:	Mr. & Mrs. Oxenreider and Barry Schaffer discussed the reasoning behind the proposed zoning changes of their parcels with Supervisor Seifert who explained that the baseline for zoning is to group "like uses". Mr. Schaffer voiced his disapproval for the proposed change of his parcel from LC to R zoning because he had purchased it a number of years ago in order to use it as an LC parcel.	All affected residents were encouraged to submit to the Township, in writing, which changes they are opposed to and why they are opposed to them.
Old Business:	None	None
New Business: New Zoning Ordinance Draft – present, review and discuss draft.	Solicitor Jenny Cheng stated that the purpose of this public meeting was to receive public input and consideration of changes to the new Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map. Chris Maxwell, a local, commercial beekeeper, educated the group on the importance of honeybees and beekeeping. His concern is that zoning restrictions would eliminate backyard beekeeping, which accounts for ninety-nine percent of beekeepers in our state. Steve Dellinger and Carl Faust also	Township Chairperson Penny Kleintop and Solicitor Cheng both stated that residents should submit their concerns to the township office in writing in a timely manner. Mr. Maxwell was encouraged to submit his input, in writing to the township, pertaining to livestock in the new Zoning Ordinance in order to allow for beekeeping in residential neighborhoods.

	discussed some minor changes and corrections that are being worked on.	
Officials: Zoning Officer Report	Copy provided for review.	None
Discussion:	Residents proposing changes or corrections to the new Zoning Ordinance need additional time and opportunity to voice any opposition to the proposed zoning changes.	The Planning Commission will hold a Workshop on Monday, November 24, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. to review and discuss any proposals for changes to the new Zoning Ordinance Draft and Map before its submittal to the County for review.
Adjournment	None	Connie Bieling called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Rick Mertz, seconded by James Shafer. A.I.F. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda L. Drew