

Greenfield Township Zoning Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2018

- **Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Jim Beiter, acting committee chairman, at 6:00 p.m. March 20, 2018, at the Greenfield Township Firehouse. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited at the opening of the meeting.

- **Roll call**

The Chairman conducted a roll call, asking each member to give name and address. The following members were present:

Jeff Bader, 5685 Rauch Rd. -alternate
Jack Barr, 1642 Winding Oak Dr.
Jim Beiter, 416 Coonpath Rd. NW
Jeff Kraner, 1955 Carroll Southern Rd.
Kim Wickham, 5964 Havensport Rd.

Other attendees: John Reef Sr, Jennifer Wolfe, Larry Wolfe

- **Review of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes from the February 20, 2018, meeting were reviewed. Jeff Kraner moved to approve the minutes as written. Jack seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was taken: Jeff B, Yes; Jack, Yes; Jim, Yes; Jeff K, Yes; Kim, Yes. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

- **Updated Zoning Book**

Jennifer noted that the prosecutor's office is still reviewing the proposed changes to the zoning book. Amy Brown, an assistant prosecuting attorney from the office, hopes to finish reviewing it for the April meeting.

Members have not heard if the trustees have set a date for a public hearing of the changes.

- **Discussion on Township Process**

Kim opened the discussion, asking what each of us can do to make the role of the zoning commission work better for the good of the community. She spoke about embracing the powers of this commission to help keep the integrity of the community

and focus on the commission's function. Jack and Jim agreed that we should get the community involved.

Jeff Kraner inquired about the annexation process and what is involved if Lancaster decides they want to encroach on Greenfield Township.

Kim revisited discussion on the apartments on Havensport Rd. which have not been addressed as an example where the township relies on the prosecutor to administer the laws of the township. The property on St. Rt. 158 with excessive vehicles was used as another example.

Kim asked, "How do we make changes?" Jack talked about the zoning inspector and trustees following up on issues. He also discussed whether the Highway Patrol would tow the vehicles that are sitting at least partially in the right of way.

The commission debated how citizen concerns were being handled and followed up on by the inspector and trustees.

Kim brought up the point of the commission was supposed to vote on a chairman in January as an example of how we must clean our own house before pointing fingers at others.

Consideration was given on how to get the zoning inspector to attend the zoning commission meeting, such as asking him to come as it is listed in the position description. If he does not get paid enough to attend the meeting, Kim suggested that he document the amount of time he spends on the job during a 30 day period as a justification for a salary increase and then go to the trustees and ask for commensurate pay.

Jack and Jeff K. reviewed that it is up to the trustees to enforce the laws and employee functions within the township.

Kim said she feels that each member of the commission needs to be committed to give time to the commission. To do research to understand topics and to use technology. To be more business-like.

Jack feels the commission needs more support from the trustees and better communication. Jim used the example of the Dollar General hearing as an example of where his advice was ignored by the trustees as he had called Lonnie Kosch to discuss the legal notice posted. Jim had checked with Josh Horacek, assistant Fairfield County Prosecutor, who agreed that the details of allowing reduced parking spaces on the 19 acres instead of the 2 acres that Dollar General is purchasing were incorrect. John Reef said he was unaware that the BZA had done anything wrong.

Jack mentioned having an ad in the paper after the trustees approve the new changes to let the public know where they can access the new book, in office or online, as a way of promoting public awareness and involvement.

Jack believes the commission members should get a raise since the trustees and road crew got a raise. Kim objected.

- **Next meeting**

Tuesday, April 17, 2018, at 6:00pm at the Greenfield Township Firehouse.

- **Adjournment**

Jeff Bader moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Jeff Kraner. A Roll Call vote was taken: Jeff B, Yes; Jack, Yes; Jim, Yes; Jeff K, Yes; Kim, Yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Wolfe, secretary.

Kevin Yeamans, zoning inspector, sent an email notice to the commission on May 29th canceling the April meeting. Next meeting is Tuesday, May 15, 2018.

Minutes approved as corrected 5/15/2018.