

LANCASTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC HEARING: CODIFICATION OF LANCASTER TOWNSHIP LEGISLATION
JANUARY 6, 2020

The Lancaster Township Board of Supervisors hearing was called to order by Chairman Plesniak at 6:20PM. Those in attendance were Supervisor Tim Zinkham, Township Manager Ben Kramer, Secretary-Treasurer, Chrissy Senft, Township Solicitor Chris Reese, Township Engineer Tom Thompson, Connie Domhoff, Randy Anno, Kathy Ligday, Mary Ann Brill, Charles Scott, John Meyer, Darrell Fassinger, Bryan Domhoff, Mike Woodward, and Dennis Kerr. Supervisor Kniess was absent.

A motion was made by Chairman Plesniak to recess the regular meeting of the Lancaster Township Board of Supervisors at 6:15PM and proceed to a public hearing to be held to review Ordinance 110 and the codification of all Lancaster Township legislation. Seconded by Supervisor Zinkham. VOTE: Zinkham, Plesniak -YES, Supervisor Kniess was absent.

Solicitor Chris Reese introduced the court reporter for the evening, Cheryl Eckstein and further went on to explain the purpose of the hearing to be held for Ordinance 110 to discuss the codification process and the legislation impacted by the codification. Mrs. Eckstein asked those who may provide testimony to rise and be sworn in. Further Solicitor Reese explained that the proposed ordinance had been available for public review and was duly advertised in the Butler Eagle on December 19 and December 27, 2019.

Solicitor Reese asked if the Board had any questions as it pertains to the Codification. Chairman Plesniak asked Township Manager Benjamin Kramer to explain the process that the Township had completed to arrive at this point. Mr. Kramer explained that the codification started in 2017 and that the proposal was spread over 3 financial seasons. The review included detailed editorial and legal analysis of all legislation within Lancaster Township dating from 1953 through 2019. The Township met each objective set forth by General Code and with thorough analysis by the Solicitors office, as well as Gannett Fleming the Township was now in a position to fully approve its updated code and publish it for residents to access at their leisure. Mr. Kramer read from the notice of proposed code adoption, specifically referencing details changing to the newly created Chapter 300, which is the Zoning legislation of Lancaster Township. Mr. Kramer explained that the only setbacks being discussed were to become consistent with all zoning districts and eliminate instances in which they were previously left out. Mr. Kramer referenced that the Table of Authorized Uses was updated to include Group Dwellings and Cluster Developments where it was previously in conflict. Further, the PRD references which were previously repealed were in fact removed from the Table of Authorized Uses.

After discussion within the audience, Township resident John Meyer of 335 Camp Run Road expressed concern that a provision to accommodate an update to non-movable sheds was not included. Mr. Kramer referred Mr. Meyer to the section where that information was located and read that the definition had been included and updated. There being no further questions, Mr. Kramer asked if Tom Thompson of Gannett Fleming had anything additional. Mr. Thompson indicated that he had completed a review of the proposed Zoning and Subdivision sections and had no further concerns.

Chairman Plesniak thanked everyone involved and indicated that they will adjourn the public hearing to resume the originally scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting and requested a motion to adjourn this public hearing at 6:34. Motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham and passed by a majority vote. VOTE: Zinkham, Plesniak -YES, Supervisor Kniess was absent.

Respectfully submitted:

Christina M. Senft
Secretary/Treasurer