

The Peach Bottom Township **Planning Commission** met on **April 20, 2017** at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Office Building. Members present Frank Diamond (Chair), Wesley Carter (Vice Chair), David Arnold, Dave Thompson and Todd Steiner.

- **Motion** to accept the minutes as presented was made by Member Carter and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Arnold, vote 5/0.

Member Diamond introduced David Thompson & Todd Steiner, new members of the Planning Commission.

### Subdivision and Land Development Plans

Simon – 849 Lay Road, Map BQ Parcel 35, consisting of 4.46 Acres.

They are seeking approval to proceed with subdividing their lot. A Hydrogeological Study was conducted requiring 1.74 acres to comply with the Department of Environmental Protection. The driveway will be located on Flintville Road across from existing driveways.

- **Motion** recommending the property owners move ahead with the proposed subdivision was made by Member Arnold and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Steiner, vote 5/0.

### New Business

Christopher Thiericht addressed the commission concerning placing an ordinance into effect to make the possession of certain amounts of marijuana, not a Summary Offense which creates a criminal record. In Pennsylvania, a Maryland Medical Marijuana Card means nothing and Peach Bottom Township is right on the Mason Dixon line. Pittsburg, Philadelphia and Harrisburg have adopted such ordinances which do not legalize marijuana, but reduces penalties stemming from possession and public use to small fines and community service. This allows the police officer to write out the ticket as an ordinance violation rather than an arrestable violation. If this is the 1<sup>st</sup> offense and the violator is not a trouble maker, it will not show up on their criminal record. There are so many negatives to this; harsh penalties that do not fit the crime.

The Commission Members discussed and questioned the proposal.

- The Township does not have an enforcement agency; we rely on the state police.
- Is this more complicated for the police?
- The State Police currently will not enforce Township ordinances.
- Is there a public call for this?
- The Township attorney needs to review any proposed ordinance.
- Is the idea that if there is more positive action on this from other municipalities it would go up the chain of command?
- This is a real uphill battle.

The Members requested Mr. Thiericht provide a proposed ordinance to the Board of Supervisors for their review, comment and guidance to the Commission.

### Zoning Ordinance

Section 390 Performance Standards.

The amendment was reviewed and discussed. It replaces the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) sound levels with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sound levels. This makes Section 390 less complicated and incorporates more restrictive requirements for any new operations in any zoning district.

The members and attendees discussed the noise emitted from Calpine.

- **Motion** to forward the proposed amendment to the Board of Supervisors for review was made by Member Arnold and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Thompson, vote 5/0.
  
- **Motion** to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. was made by Member Arnold and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Steiner vote 5/0.