

DAUPHIN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting

September 8, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Dauphin County Planning Commission was held Tuesday, September 8, 2009 in the Second Floor Conference Room of the Dauphin County Veteran’s Memorial Office Building, Harrisburg, PA. Chairman Dan Tunnell called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Those members present were: Mr. Edward Carney, Mr. Paul Clark, Mr. Tom Clark, Mr. John Kerschner, Mr. Keith Oellig, Mr. Tom Shaffer and Mr. Dan Tunnell. Also present were Messrs. Szyborski, Reardon and Sundara of the staff. Ms. Candace Stowell and Mr. Craig Peiffer were in attendance as guests.

MINUTES APPROVAL

On a motion by Mr. Carney, seconded by Mr. Paul Clark, the Commission approved the minutes of the August 3, 2009 meeting with the following addition to New Business item 6.B.4:

“One member stepped out of the room during the vote.”

COMMUNICATIONS AND BILLS

1. Communications

Mr. Reardon noted receipt of a follow-up letter to the PUC indicating information pertaining to the sale of the HUB property in Swatara Township and the request for removal of an order to install an 18” CMP pipe in Milroy Road under the Norfolk Southern railroad underpass. No response was required by the commission to this communication.

Mr. Szyborski noted a telephone conversation and follow-up written communication from a Dauphin Borough citizen regarding the process for interpretation of a zoning issue.

2. Payment of Expenses

On a motion by Mr. Kerschner, seconded by Mr. Paul Clark, the Commission approved transfer of funds for the following expenses:

To TCRPC for August Subdivision & Sewage Module Fees
Transfer..... \$1,559.00

REPORTS

1. Chairman's Report

Mr. Tunnell asked if there had been any follow-up to the cell tower approval in August. Mr. Reardon indicated receipt of a letter from the tower representative indicating their compliance with the conditions of the approval were acceptable.

2. Treasurer's Report

On a motion by Mr. Kerschner, seconded by Mr. Shaffer, the Treasurer's Report in the form of a Financial Statement for the month ending August 30, 2009 was accepted for filing and audit. A copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached to the file copy of these minutes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Progress: Regional Transportation Planning Project, 2009-2010.

Mr. Szymborski noted PennDOT has decided a biennial TIP update will occur. This is an extremely tight timeframe for the staff and there are limited funds for project development.

Three applications for TIGER funds have been endorsed by HATS –

- Harrisburg Southern Gateway
- Park Boulevard in Derry Township
- Norfolk Southern Crescent Corridor (Harrisburg Lucknow Yard) - Transportation access and Lemoyne Connector Grade Separation have been noted in the letter of support as “necessary” and “vital” to provide adequate capacity to handle the increase in truck movements generated by the corridor project, and provide future transit access to Cumberland County and beyond.

Current TIP projects update

- Route 39 improvement project is underway
- The construction phase of Harrisburg City Schools Safe Routes to School crosswalk project has added to the TIP
- A public meeting on the Norfolk Southern/Harrisburg Yard Intermodal Facility expansion was held. Staff is preparing a response for distribution
- Hummelstown Borough has requested HATS include a park and ride on the current TIP
- Staff will be attending PennDOT's open house on the draft Intercity Passenger and Freight Rail Plan

- Staff will be attending a PennDOT/Federal Railroad Administration Agency Coordination Meeting (ACM) to discuss and receive input on the Keystone Corridor East High Speed Rail program. The focus is primarily the Philadelphia area of the 105 mile corridor from Philadelphia to Harrisburg

B. Local Planning Assistance Report.

The Local Planning Assistance report for the month of August was distributed to those members present. A copy of the report is attached to the file copy of these minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Subdivision/Land Development Matters

1. Review/Comment

On a motion by Mr. Paul Clark, seconded by Mr. Kerschner, a motion was passed to ratify staff reviews of the seven plan applications listed and attached to the file copy of these minutes. It should be noted; Mr. Shaffer abstained from plan #09-112.

B. Zoning Ordinance Amendment Reviews

1. Harrisburg City – Map Amendment – create the Academy Manor Historic district

Ms. Stowell and Mr. Peiffer distributed updated information in support of the City's request for a rezoning creating a historic district overlay. Mr. Tunnell asked, "What happens to property values when a historic district is created?" Ms. Stowell's response was that the City has found that in general property values are higher in historic districts.

On a motion by Mr. Kerschner, seconded by Mr. Paul Clark, the Commission voted to recommend approval of the proposed amendment.

2. Highspire Borough – New/updated zoning ordinance

On a motion by Mr. Paul Clark, seconded by Mr. Carney, the Commission recommended approval of the proposed ordinance with consideration given to staff comments.

3. Washington Township – Text Amendment – Wind Energy Facilities

On a motion by Mr. Paul Clark, seconded by Mr. Oellig, the Commission recommended approval of the proposal with consideration given to staff comments.

C. Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance Amendment

1. Highspire Borough – New/updated zoning ordinance

On a motion by Mr. Tom Clark, seconded by Mr. Carney, the Commission recommended approval of the proposed ordinance with consideration given to staff comments.

D. Sewage Module Review

On a motion by Mr. Kerschner, seconded by Mr. Carney, the Commission ratified the staff reviews of Sewage Modules # 2009-19 and #2009-20.

E. Intergovernmental Reviews

On a motion by Mr. Paul Clark, seconded by Mr. Tom Clark, the Commission ratified a letter of support for relocation of existing sewer lines of the Derry Township Municipal Authority. It should be noted; Mr. Tom Clark abstained from voting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Paul Clark, seconded by Mr. Oellig, the meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m. The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for **4:00 p.m. on Monday, October 5, 2009** in the Dauphin County Veteran's Memorial Office Building's Second Floor Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul D. Clark
Secretary