

**BETHEL TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
JOINT MEETING, ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS  
MINUTES**

January 24, 2017

The Bethel Township joint meeting was called to order by Chairman Jacob Meyer. Board members present were Jake Meyer and Mike Graby. Also present were Eugene Orlando Jr., Solicitor; Gary Kraft, Engineer; Robin Royer, Zoning Officer and Jayne Seifrit.

**Reorganization for Planning Commission**

The Solicitor stated the Planning Commission has not had a meeting in the new year to reorganize; they shall do it now. Solicitor asked for nomination for Chairman. Lee Groff nominated Bill Straw, seconded by Mike Orendo. All agreed. Motion carried. Bill Straw asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Lee Groff nominated Corey Houser for Vice Chairman, seconded by Michael Orendo. All agreed. Motion carried.

Bill Straw asked for nominations for Secretary. George Shollenberger nominated Betsy Bowman, seconded by Corey Houser. All agreed. Motion carried.

Bill Straw made a motion to close reorganization meeting, seconded by Lee Groff.

Bill Straw called the Planning Commission meeting to order. Present were members Michael Orendo, Corey Houser, Lee Groff, Bill Straw, Betsy Bowman and George Shollenberger.

**Hearing of Visitors**

Storage of explosives – Mark Koch was present to have a discussion on explosive storage. Mark Koch stated Maine Drilling and Blasting is very interested in having a storage site in Bethel Township. They have tried two different locations and have been denied both times. The issue is ATF and DEP regulate and one of the items is the proximity to inhabitable structures. The amount of acres to comply with ATF and DEP regulations would be about a fifty (50) acre parcel for the amount of explosive stored. The thought is it marries well with agricultural areas because the land can still be farmed around the storage site. Mark Koch wanted to know if this is something that can be discussed to be added to allowable use with standard. There were several members strongly against the use, especially in the agricultural area. Other members would be open to seeing a proposal, documentation, standards etc.; with the understanding the bar is very high to prove not detrimental to the community.

**Zoning Districts and Map**

Discussion on where auto repair use could be located in the township and what standards should be complied with for the use. There are several properties in the Township that are storing tires and batteries outside. This should also be addressed while looking at standards; additional standards should be number of vehicles, length of time on property.

**Homework** – Take a look at the packet; consider what is being placed in what district. Is the use where you want to see it? Check out the map to be sure the districts are laid out as you want and make sense.

**Adjournment**

Bill Straw made a motion to adjourn special meeting, seconded by Corey Houser. Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jayne K Seifrit, Township Manager