

**Bethel Township
Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission
Joint Zoning Ordinance and Map Amendment Meeting
March 26, 2019**

The Bethel Township Joint meeting was called to order by Chairman Jake Meyer at 6:34 p.m. in the Bethel Township Meeting Room, Bethel PA.

Attending the meeting were Lee Groff, Michael Graby, Jacob Meyer, Bill Straw, Brian Bauer, Michael Orendo, Corey Houser, Betsy Bowman and George Shollenberger. Also, in attendance were Solicitor Eugene Orlando Jr., Engineer Gary Kraft, Zoning Officer Robin Royer and Township Sec Treas. Jayne Seifrit.

Bill Straw recapped prior meetings to get to where we are today.

Hearing of Visitors

Fred Bowman made a lengthy pitch to have the farm and two other smaller properties included in the IC District consisting of 38 acres. He outlined why it makes sense for all concerned. The members of the joint meeting received a letter from the Bowman's attorney

Discussion

Bill Straw turned the meeting over to Gary Kraft. Gary Kraft stated the members have been given a handout that shows the map as it was recommended to be changed from last meeting. Also, the text changes that were recommended from last meeting were handed out.

Steve Burkhart was making a case to have the property along 419 remain in IC as it has been there for 31 years. If the Township wants to change anything it should be the Daub Road property back to Agriculture. He further commented the Township Engineer wants warehouses because he makes more money for himself.

Lisa Hassler asked where the Boards get the power to downgrade a person's property value. How dare they.

Mike Graby asked why we wouldn't keep Burkhart's property along 419 in IC, it was done for Best Trucks at 645.

Michael Orendo commented the Bowman properties would have very little impact on the Township road as it would go in from 645. It would make sense to change those properties right at the I-78 interchange. Several members agreed.

Changes

Return the IC area along 419 as it was on the 2012 map and keep the commercial section from the revised proposed map from February 12, 2019 meeting.

Remove the properties from IC behind Best Trucks to Martin Forestry property, then changed to area around 15 Daub Rd. Then Lloyd Brubacker came to the table, pointed out on the map his sons farm and asked why they would take away his sons' ability in the future.

Eugene Orlando explained the reasons to zone areas and uses and not individual properties. What is happening at this meeting is exactly why you look at the entire Township. The Boards can only make determinations based on current and where potential growth is desired or not desired.

George Shollenberger stated he made a motion earlier and there was not any action taken. George Shollenberger stated he made a motion to recommend map and zoning districts as presented. Bill Straw asked for a second, the motion died for lack of support.

Changes

It was stated the Bowman Farm and two other parcels to make up an additional 38 acres be included in the IC district.

It was decided to have another meeting so the map changes recommended can be updated by Robin Royer and Gary Kraft and presented to the joint board. April 23, 2019 at 6:30 pm is the next date. Lee Groff made a motion authorizing advertising the meeting, seconded by Mike Graby. All agreed. Motion carried.

Lee Groff made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm., seconded by Jake Meyer. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jayne K Seifrit
Township Secretary