

**EASTTOWN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
DRAFT OMNIBUS CODE AMENDMENTS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 14, 2021**

Call to Order:

The Planning Commission (PC) Special Meeting to discuss the Draft Omnibus Code Amendments was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Mary Hashemi. Other members present: Vice Chairperson Ann Rothman, Mark Stanish, Nik Kharva and Paul Salvaggio. Also attending: Matt Lubitz, Planning and Zoning Officer and Tom Oeste, Esquire, Planning Commission Solicitor.

Draft Omnibus Zoning Amendments:

Chair Hashemi began the discussion with the proposed amendments from the Historical Commission (HC). Mr. Friedrich, HC Chair, participated in this discussion. Mrs. Hashemi called for public comment. Cheryl Harper, HC member, commented on the discussion and the HC's advisory capacity noting that both Commissions view things differently. Stacey Ballard, Eadeh Enterprises commented on supporting the PC comments, utilizing grants and working together. There was consensus among the PC members that for now, the HC section will be pulled out from this review process and reviewed at a later date. The PC appreciates the work done and stated that the Historic Resources review deserves the time and also the resources of a professional for a thorough review. Palmer Dalesandro, HC member, 610 Clovelly Lane, commented on the PC decision regarding the HC proposed amendments.

Beekeeping – This amendment was a request from a resident who would like the ordinance changed to allow beekeeping on properties less than two acres in size. The Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was tasked with reviewing this amendment prior to PC review. Gary Ellis, Vice Chair of the EAC, was in attendance to participate in the discussion. Mr. Ellis noted that the EAC passed a motion (4-1 vote) in favor of amending the beekeeping ordinance. The EAC recommended that two (2) requirements be included in the ordinance: 1) that adjacent neighbors be notified of the requested permit, that notifications are the applicant's responsibility, and that proof of notification is required with the permit application, and 2) the ordinance should include a recommendation that applicants take a beekeeping course such as the Penn State Extension course or an equivalent. There was much discussion and Mr. Lubitz will make the suggested edits. The PC unanimously opposes changes to the ordinance regarding the current beekeeping regulations.

Policy Oriented Changes – The PC discussed sidewalks, road widening, curves, and aligning the ordinances with the Comprehensive Plan. The PC recommended removing four (4) properties from the overlay district and requested that their changes from this discussion be updated by Mr. Lubitz. Mrs. Hashemi called for public comment. Bruce Norcini, 202 Bella Vista Road, commented on the overlay district and affordable housing. Joe Kohn, 240 Sugartown Road, commented on repealing the ordinance in its entirety.

Definitions/Other – The PC discussed Sections 17 & 18 and the tables. Joan Bergquist, 217 Devon Boulevard, commented on standalone warehouses. Joe Kohn commented on parking garages and use regulations.

Mrs. Hashemi noted there were approximately nine (9) definitions remaining and the PC will address them at their next meeting. If, at the November meeting, the PC needs additional time for review, members should come prepared with their availability to schedule an additional meeting.

Public Comment:

Mrs. Hashemi called for public comment. There was no public comment.

Announcements:

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, November 04, 2021 at 7:00 PM preceded by a Workshop meeting beginning at 6:30 PM.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Sharon Norris

Sharon Norris
Administrative Assistant to the Township Manager