

**COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL CENTER**

5520 Municipal Drive , Tobyhanna, PA 18466
(570) 894-8490 • FAX (570) 894-8413

**COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
REORGANIZATIONAL/REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2017
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by Planning Commission Chairman Bernard Kozen at 6:32pm in the meeting room of the Coolbaugh Township Municipal Center, 5520 Municipal Drive, Tobyhanna, PA.

Mr. Kozen led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members present:

Bernard Kozen, Dennis Noonan, Alma I. Ruiz-Smith, Kevin Ambrogio and Steve Baker

Board Members absent:

None

Staff present:

Solicitor H. Clark Connor, Engineer Russ Kresge and Acting Recording Secretary Erin Masker.

Staff absent:

None

1. Organization of the Planning Commission

Solicitor Clark Connor opened the meeting up for the nomination for appointment of Chairman

Appointments of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary

Ms. Ruiz-Smith made a motion second by Mr. Ambrogio to keep the appointments the same as last year with Mr. Kozen as Chairman, Mr. Noonan as Vice Chairman and Mr. Baker as Secretary.

- **Discussion:** None
- **Vote:** All in favor, motion passes.

2. Selection of Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2018

Ms. Ruiz-Smith made a motion second by Mr. Ambrogio to hold meetings in 2018 on the second Monday of every month at 6:30pm.

- **Discussion:** None
- **Vote:** All in favor, motion passes.

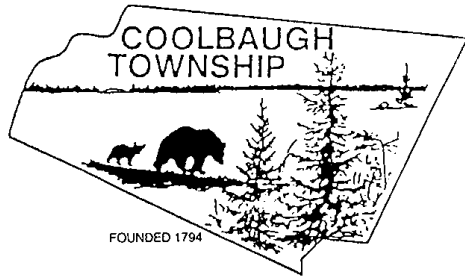
3. Approval of December 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Noonan made a motion second by Mr. Baker to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2017 meeting as presented.

- **Discussion:** None
- **Vote:** All in favor, motion passes.

4. Discussion on Wireless Tower/Device Ordinance (Carson Helfrich)

Mr. Helfrich reviewed the options on the ordinance as presented with a modification to the current ordinance as well as a sample addendum that could be incorporated in the current ordinance which offers updated definitions as well as added terms and definitions. Mr. Helfrich stated that the reason for the changes is due to the current act in congress which would allow cell towers in the Right of Way and would eliminate the regulations by the municipalities. Township



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Engineer, Russell Kresge stated that there needs to be a better definition for "Right of Way" and it was agreed that the original definition in the current ordinance should be used. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated her concerns on the maintenance, upkeep and responsibility of damage should the towers/devices be installed in the Township Right of Way. Mr. Helfrich asked if the commission would want to charge a fee on associated equipment/ exchange boxes if they are attached to an existing pole, being advised that they are in favor of that. Mr. Noonan asked what is considered the industry standard for these devices. Mr. Helfrich stated that an option for permitting for be that the company would apply for a conditional approval from the Board of Supervisors and all their devices would have to be the same and meet the same conditions as set forth. Solicitor Connor stated that should the Act pass we would lose all rights to regulate and this Ordinance would be invalid. The commission agreed that the wording on page 3, (B) #3 should reflect that "no new towers would be permitted and that the devices would only be considered if attached to an existing pole". Mr. Noonan asked for a clearer definition of an associated use. Mr. Helfrich will work on making the corrections to present to the Commission at a future meeting. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that the Board of Supervisors will be meeting with a cell tower company at their next work session.

5. Public Input

Ms. Lynn Kelly stated that they just want cover all their bases and make sure that these towers are not able to pop up everywhere including in the front of residents properties.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Ruiz-Smith second by Mr. Baker to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:22PM.

NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING: Monday, March 12, 2018.

Submitted by: _____
Steve Baker, Planning Commission Secretary

Compiled by: **Erin M. Masker, Acting Recording Secretary**

Witnessed by: _____
Bernard Kozen, Planning Commission Chairman

Date: _____