

COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION NOTES
July 7, 2020

The work session was called to order by Chairman William Weimer at 6:00pm at the Pocono Mountain Public Library located at 5500 Municipal Drive, Tobyhanna, PA.

Board Members present:

William Weimer, Anthony Lamantia, Clare Colgan, Lynn Kelly and Alma I. Ruiz-Smith

Board Members absent:

None

Staff present:

Patrick Armstrong, Solicitor, Erin Masker, Township Secretary and Meredith Thompson, Business Manager

Staff absent:

None

Mr. Weimer announced that this work session is being recorded to aid in the preparation of the notes.

1. Review of Landscape Ordinance

Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that she reviewed the ordinance and list of acceptable trees and stated that her only concern is the placement of some of the trees including Mountain Laurels as they attract the deer. She stated that if they are placed in an area of high traffic there is potential for them to cause an accident. Solicitor Armstrong stated that there are guidelines and setbacks from roadways that must be adhered to stating that as long as those are met there is no liability on the Township if there is an accident. Mr. Weimer stated that this is a simplified ordinance as the original was 14 pages long and made it difficult for developers to comply with. Ms. Masker stated that this ordinance will need to be authorized to be sent to the MCPC for review.

2. Other Business

Nothing was heard.

3. Public Input

A. Romano was in attendance expressing her concerns regarding the tractor trailers that are traveling on Mill Street stating that they are destroying her property and neighboring properties. She stated that she is getting the run around as to whether it is the Township's responsibility or PennDot. She requested that "no tractor trailer" signs be placed along Mill Street and Prospect Street. Discussion took place as to whether that would be allowed as they may be state roads. Mr. Weimer stated that he will contact his DPW Foreman to see if there is anything that can be done. Mr. Lamantia asked if the Township can send a letter to the companies in the area and advise them of the route of travel to take when exiting the highway and make them aware that trucks are not allowed on the side roads that are in question. Mr. Weimer stated that he will speak with Mr. Roback at PennDot regarding the issue as well. Ms. Kelly stated that there is an issue with the GPS that is taking the trucks onto those roads instead of instructing them to turn right off of the highway.

Residents of Stillwater Lake Civic Association were in attendance discussing the status of the Short Term Rental Ordinance stating that they are in favor of the ordinance as it is written and asked if there is any way of providing the Township with renters that did not comply with the governors orders during the

COVID-19 crisis as they were still renting to people from out of state during the entire time. Mr. Weimer stated that the STR Ordinance was scheduled to be on the August 18, 2020 work session, but due to the restrictions on large gatherings at this point it is unsure if that will be possible. Solicitor Armstrong stated that any issues prior to the passing of the ordinance would not be able to be considered by the Township when issuing permits to owners of short term rentals, but stated that once the ordinance is in place, then any complaints would be directed to the Township for investigation by the Codes and Zoning Department. Mr. Weimer stated that our ordinance is aimed to ensure the health and safety of our residents and renters, we want the rentals to be allowed, but to also be controlled. Discussion ensued on the bylaws of their community not allowing businesses, being advised that is not something that the Township can comment on. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that as an association, you can request to see their EIN # if they have one.

Work Session ended at 6:30pm.