

## Minutes of the Perry Township Planning Commission Meeting of January 14, 2009

The Perry Township Planning Commission meeting was held on January 14, 2009, at the Perry Township Building on Big Shannon run road.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Chairperson Joe Fox. Present were members Glen Evans, Jerry, Blaker, and Jan Ditzian.

Also in attendance were Perry Township Supervisors Buck Kennedy, Allan Dale Lemley, and Albert Phillips.

### Minutes

The minutes of the December 2008 meeting were read by secretary Jan Ditzian, and were accepted as read.

**Reorganization of the Planning Commission.** The first meeting of the year is, by law, the reorganization meeting for all township committees. Accordingly, It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously that all Planning Commission officers be retained in their current offices for the year 2009. The meeting time will remain the same, second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM.

### Old Business

**1. Traffic Control Signs in Mount Morris.** Buck Kennedy showed the Planning Commission a letter from PADOT concerning recommendations for signs as contained in the Comprehensive Plan. The letter included an attachment that is a memorandum from the Pennsylvania Department of Highways to Mr. N.A. Staples, Chief Highway Engineer, dated February 20, 1951. The paragraph of interest reads as follows:

The Township Supervisors will furnish, erect and maintain the signs also enforce the restrictions.

The inclusion of this letter by PADOT suggests that they still expect the Perry Township Supervisors to provide and maintain signs, in accord with this 1951 directive. The full December 2008 letter to Mr. Kennedy is appended to these minutes, including the 1951 letter attached to it.

**2. Christmas Lights.** This year there were six new Christmas Lights on poles in Mount Morris. Next year there will be 30 lights total. The electricity is on at the poles where these lights were installed. The money for these lights came from a state grant obtained through the offices of Mr. Bill DeWeese, our state representative.

**3. Comprehensive Plan.** The Comprehensive Plan has been adopted by the group of townships, including Perry. Decisions about whether or not to institute zoning are independent of the Comprehensive Plan.

**4. Review of Township Ordinances.** Now that the Comprehensive Plan is complete, it is time for us to begin review of the township ordinances. Buck Kennedy has nearly completed the additional work needed prior to our start.

**5. Water Lines.** Jerry Blaker said that he now has water from the new line. Discussion ensued, and it is understood that more work needs to be done to prevent leaks before the water company can switch to its new water provider.

**6. Security Cameras.** When the new Christmas lighting system was envisioned, it was mentioned that we might use the electric drops to power security cameras as well as lights. Supervisor Albert Phillips has investigated this further and determined that there are serious legal, cost, and communication questions to be answered before taking action in this direction. For example, if a camera showed a private driveway, and if the public were able to view this camera view on the internet, then a thief might use that information to determine when a resident was not home. There are also problems with what official agency might monitor the cameras, and how to transmit the information.

**7. Planning Commission as Development Agency.** Supervisor Phillips again urged the Planning Commission to try to attract business to our community.

#### New Business

**8. Tree removed.** The supervisors removed a large tree on Bacon Run, and it is available for firewood to anyone who wants to cut it up.

**9. Police Enforcement of Township Laws and Regulations.** Supervisor Phillips suggested that we contact Tim Haufield of the Waynesburg Police Department for a general idea of how much it costs to have an officer enforce laws in the Township. He suggested that the cost is quite high.

**10. Storm Water Management.** We discussed with the supervisors the suggestion that we investigate the need for rules for storm water management, now that the Township is beginning to develop, and we can see that water runoff from paved areas can be a local problem.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Ditzian, Secretary, Perry Township Planning Commission