

TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLETOWN  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

August 14, 2018

Present: Mark Bradson, Greg Reitze, Peter Schettler, and Bill Moran

Donald Petrosa, Solicitor and Eric Janetka, Engineer

A. Call to Order

Chairman Mr. Schettler called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

B. Approval of Minutes-June

Mr. Bradson motioned to approve the June 2018 minutes as submitted. Ms. Schettler seconded this motion and the Commission approved the minutes unanimously with a vote of 3-0 (Mr. Moran abstained due to his absence at that meeting).

C. Old Business

None

D. New Business

*Ordinance amending Chapter 276 "Zoning" and Chapter 186 "Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control" to provide time restrictions on construction within a right-of-way occupied by a natural gas liquids pipeline within a quarter (1/4) mile of any school within the township.*

Mr. Petrosa explained that he believed Ms. Merino and Mr. Haines prepared this draft ordinance with the intention to restrict the hours that an affected right-of-way can be worked on while a school within the noted proximity is in session. There are several sections that would be added and amended to the ordinance to provide language to this effect. He noted that he received an email that noted a public hearing is scheduled in front of Council for September 10<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Reitze asked if this ordinance only affected the ME2 pipeline in the Township and Mr. Petrosa answered in the negative, stating it would be any pipeline carrying liquid natural gas. Mr. Reitze asked if there were any existing at this time. Mr. Janetka was not sure but thought it was likely. Mr. Reitze then went on to point out that the draft ordinance did not define what constituted a school. Mr. Petrosa believed the intent was for public and private but did not think it would include things like ballet school or auto-

mechanic schools. Mr. Janetka commented that it is possible this is already defined in the ordinance.

Mr. Reitze then went on to question the phrasing of “any excavation” and while it may be limited to the natural gas pipeline, did it include other lines that are by a natural gas pipeline? In addition, he thought it lacked detail on what is considered an emergency and what could be done on an emergency basis. His main concern was that an ordinance like this could have broader implications. Mr. Bradson agreed that there needed to be language included about what could be done in case of an emergency.

After further discussion between the Planning Commission and their consultants, all present members felt that more clarification was needed within the ordinance before they could vote on whether or not to recommend the ordinance for approval.

Mr. Moran motioned to table this discussion until their concerns could be addressed. Mr. Reitze seconded the motion and the Planning Commission approved it with a vote of 4-0. Mr. Janetka asked the members of the Planning Commission to email him their concerns so he could prepare a list of questions for the Township.

Mr. Schettler adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AAllen', written in a cursive style.

Amanda Allen, Recorder