

**Swatara Township Planning Commission**  
**December 5, 2019**

Board Members in attendance were Terry Brandt, Dean Patches, Steve Steiner and Jeff Werner.

Jeff Werner called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**Minutes**

Dean Patches moved to approve the minutes from the November 7, 2019 meeting with the inclusion of wording to be included regarding uses: “When establishing a business, attention needs to be paid to ensure that the “use” meets all necessary setbacks and proper access. Initial planning should also note that septic and stormwater would need to be addressed when subdivided”. Seconded by Jeff Werner. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Jeff Werner commented that he has given thought to the suggestion of lots in an Ag Zone be enlarged to 2.5 acres. After consideration, he would object to that suggestion because of the negative impact it would have on a property owner’s Clean and Green designation.

Dean Patches commented that he does agree with setting a maximum lot size for subdivisions in an Ag Zone.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Permit – Stormwater**

The Grading/Stormwater Management Permit Application from Thornbury Township, Chester County was reviewed. The discussion was requested as a means of regulating stormwater facilities that may be installed on lots with pre-existing structures that are without stormwater planning and/or facilities.

Steve Steiner moved to recommend that stone infiltration beds be removed as a BMP from the SALDO. Seconded by Terry Brandt who stressed the ineffectiveness of the infiltration beds on his property. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Discussion was also held on the following topics:

Lot sizes should be increased to accommodate effective stormwater measures.

Houses should be set higher than the road for effective stormwater runoff.

Can infiltration pits be allowed with conditions?

Should basins be used to eliminate infiltration pits?

Will changes to the list of allowable stormwater facilities affect the setback charts in the various zoning districts?

If a Grading/Stormwater Management Permit be adopted, a recommendation was made to make the fee \$250.00

The Planning Commission will be reviewing the previously adopted fee schedule.

Planning Commission Vacancy – term to expire 2023

A list of township residents was compiled that may be interested in serving on the Board.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Matthew and Katrina Martin Sewage Module

Dean Patches moved to approve and sign the Martin Sewage Module for the original home situated at 1830 Kenbrook Road. Seconded by Steve Steiner. All voted in favor; motion carried.

#### 2020 Meeting Dates

The Planning Commission will be meeting on Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in a workshop. Joe Strauch and Colleen Gallo will be invited for ordinance discussion. The February meeting on 2/6/2019 will also include a request for Community Input to discuss recommendations for the future of LeVan's Bridge.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

The Township has been seeking an engineer to address lighting concerns at the Township. Two recommendations were made by the Planning Commission.

#### ADJOURNMENT

With no further action or discussion at 9:18 p.m., Dean Patches moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Terry Brandt. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Harding