

**Swatara Township Planning Commission**  
**February 4, 2021**

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

Jeff Werner called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**Minutes**

Mr. Werner asked that the minutes be read. With no changes or corrections. The minutes stand approved as read.

**Ordinance Discussion**

Commercial Uses in non-commercial zoning districts.

Mr. Werner revisited the discussion for separate conditions for the different types of commercial activities. Different conditions were considered and discussed. It was determined that the Zoning Officer will be consulted for recommendations at the February 24<sup>th</sup> workshop. He will be asked to find a way to allow small business ventures and incubator businesses in the Agricultural zoning district, in an attempt to help farm owners during difficult times.

Mr. Patches reported on attending PSATS webinars and a common theme throughout the presentations was for Township's to focus on cleaning up the definition sections in their Codifications. Conflicts and omissions in definitions lead to enforcement and legal issues.

**Old Business**

Linford Snyder Poultry Land Development Plan – Dead End Road

There have been no new submittals. The plan is waiting for the NPDES permit. An extension has been received. The road details are being designed.

Wilmer Weaver Subdivision Plan – Lickdale Road

The financial security has been received. The final set of drawings has not been delivered to the Township.

**Ordinance Discussion – Continued**

Livestock in Residential Zoning Districts

Animal definitions are lacking and need to be addressed. The section allowing larger animals in the R1 and R2 zoning districts had been inadvertently removed during the last codification. The planning commission would like to see if those allowances could be reintroduced with the following conditions:

Animals would be allowed on lots at least 10 acres in size in the R1 and R2 areas.

Animals would be limited to one animal unit per acres of usable pasture grazing ground.

Poultry would be limited to 12 birds per tract.

These recommendations will be given to the Zoning Officer to provide clarification and recommendations at the February workshop.

Recreational Fires

Definitions were found to be missing. The enforceability of requiring setbacks for fires was discussed. Recommendations will be sought from the Zoning Officer.

ADJOURNMENT

Terry Brandt moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m. Seconded by Jeff Werner. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Harding