

**TOWNSHIP OF DERRY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2017 – 6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman John W. Foley, Jr., called the May 9, 2017 Public Hearing of the Township of Derry Board of Supervisors to order at 6:00 pm in the meeting room of the Township of Derry Municipal Complex, 600 Clearwater Road, Hershey, PA. A roll call was performed.

IN ATTENDANCE:

SUPERVISORS

John W. Foley, Jr., Chairman
Susan M. Cort, Vice Chairman
Justin C. Engle, Secretary-*arrived at 6:36pm*
Matthew A. Weir
Marc A. Moyer-*arrived at 6:07 pm*

ALSO PRESENT:

James N. Negley, Township Manager and Treasurer
Jill Henry, Assistant Township Manager
Jon A. Yost, Township Solicitor
Chuck Emerick, Director of Community Development
Brandon Williams, Asst. Director of Community Development
Chris Brown, Derck & Edson
Julie Echterling, Recorder

Public in Attendance:

Charles Huth, Rae Ann Schell, Jeff Gelbaugh, Jay Ziegler, Steve Hines, Steve Novosel, Penny Dougherty, Robert Smith, Dan Sheaver, Corey Bray, and Stephen Wheeler.

INTRODUCTION:

Chairman Foley stated this is a public hearing regarding the proposed Township Official Map and the accompanied ordinance to add Chapter 126, entitled "Official Map," to the Code of the Township of Derry.

Mr. Brandon Williams stated the purpose of the hearing tonight is obtain public comment on the second draft of the Official Map. Changes were made to incorporate public comments received during the first hearing in September. The map will serve as a resource for the Township to show future improvements for long range planning purposes.

He stated the improvements shown on the map have been identified in documents such as the Comprehensive plan, traffic studies and other planning documents completed by the Township. Many of the improvements have been identified to address early and on-going considerations related to traffic, recreation and flooding mitigation improvements in the Township. Changes may be made as additional study and evaluation is completed. If such improvements become reality, there are many opportunities of public involvement. Many of the improvements/projects would be completed either by the Township or as part of a land development project by a private developer. The burden of project improvement is not intended for the private homeowner.

He stated most of the changes from the first map were to the proposed trail extensions throughout the Township. Many trails were relocated to follow property boundaries. Other trails including portions of the Swatara Creek trail have been removed entirely from the map. The right-hand turn lane along Middletown Road at the Collector Road has been removed from the map. In-lieu of the turn lane, the Township has highlighted the October 2016 HRG Middletown Road Corridor Study to incorporate the potential improvements identified in that study.

TOWNSHIP OF DERRY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2017 – 6:00 PM

The Ordinance accompanying the Map has been condensed by providing Section references back to the Municipalities Planning Code, rather than repeating the requirements verbatim in the ordinance. This will ensure strict compliance with State regulations. The Township and County Planning Commissioners have received it and recommended it for approval. In addition, surrounding municipalities were invited to review and comment on the revisions to the Official Map and no comments were received.

He stated no action is necessary during this hearing. He stated because of advertising obligations the earliest this could be voted on would be June 13, 2017. He asked the Board if they had any questions.

Vice Chairwoman Cort asked Mr. Williams to speak about the concerns some residents had about the trails up against their property. Mr. Williams spoke about how the trails for Swatara Creek that were removed and why they were removed including environmental issues. He stated some of the trails may be developed by future developers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Rae Ann Shell spoke about the concern her elderly parents have about sidewalks on 743 and Fishburn. She asked which side it would be on and believes it is not a safe area for them. Chairman Foley spoke about the purpose of the Official Map and Mr. Williams spoke about it being a tool. They assured her the passing of this Map would not obligate her parents to put a sidewalk in as it would be part of project costs versus home owners.

Mr. Jay Zeigler spoke about item #5 which states the realignment of Bullfrog Valley Road. He expressed concern about prior agreements and studies in the past about this road. He believes the word realignment should be taken out and the word improvements should be used. Mr. Emerick stated he found that the Township paid \$5,400 for an HRG study as a preliminary look at the road. He spoke with Mr. Zeigler and Mr. Williams and believes that the word realignment can be taken out and improvements added. The Board agreed with this change. Mr. Emerick discussed the purpose of the Map to be a placeholder for the Township, which puts homeowners on notice of potential plans, PennDOT of possible improvements and future developers.

Mr. Bob Smith stated he is a resident and local business owner. He expressed concern about the extension of Orchard Road to be used for the North/South connector. It would impact his business and another business tremendously. It would also split a business in half. He spoke about his concern with another red light and what it would do for his business who backs vehicles out on the road. Mr. Williams stated the 2015 Comprehensive Plan identified a need for a North/South connector to get traffic out of town and was identified as a priority. Chairman Foley spoke about the difficulties there is for this road including issues with the railroad and stated a study would need to be done before any plans would be made. It was suggested making a change to the language to a North/South connection since it seems tagging Orchard Road is the issue. Mr. Smith and the Board agreed this would be a good change. Mr. Smith hopes a letter would be sent to potential business owners for any proposed changes so they don't miss an opportunity for input.

Mr. Steve Wheeler, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, appreciated that they moved the trails as requested. He suggested developers should consider open spaces and trails and it be in an ordinance.

**TOWNSHIP OF DERRY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2017 – 6:00 PM**

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice Chairwoman Cort made a motion to adjourn the public hearing at 6:37 pm. Chairman Foley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

SUBMITTED BY:

Justin C. Engle
Township Secretary