



**HALFMOON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES ◦ TUESDAY – December 3, 2019 ◦ 7:00 P.M.**  
*100 Municipal Lane, Port Matilda, PA 16870*

**In attendance:** Lorin Nauman, Andrew Meehan, Jeff Martin, Joe Soloski

**Others attending:** Corey Rilk (CRPA), Susan Steele (Township Manager)

## Call to order

7:01 pm Lorin Nauman called the meeting to order.

## Action Items

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion: Mr. Soloski motions to approve the minutes of the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion was seconded by Mr. Meehan. Minutes approved.

## Discussion Items

### **1. Continued discussion of the possible change in the number of Planning Commission Members**

The suggested change in the number of Planning Commission members would be from seven (7) to five (5), with two (2) alternates.

- Ms. Steele stated that Mr. Sam Buckley's term is up in December 2019 which drops the number of members to six (6). Other members up for re-election are Andrew Meehan and Joe Soloski. Both would like to be reappointed to the Planning Commission.

- Ms. Villareal mentioned in the previous meeting that she would move back to Alternate. This would bring the number of active Planning Commission members to five (5).

- Ms. Steele stated that the appointments will be discussed at the Board of Supervisors meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

- The change of Planning Commission members number from 7 to 5 means an ordinance change that is approved by the Board of Supervisors. The Bylaws should also be modified to match the updated member number. Lastly this change will go up for public hearing.

### **2. Joint meeting between the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission**

Planning Commission members discuss whether a joint meeting between the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission should take place.

- Mr. Nauman thinks this is a good idea

- Ms. Steele stated that with 2 new Supervisors and a new manager coming in, a joint meeting makes sense. It should be a joint strategic planning session. The new Supervisors will need to come up to speed on topics and hopefully not try to dwell on recent improvements/changes.

- Ms. Steele stated that the biggest problem is the disconnect between the citizens and the Board of Supervisors. The Planning Commission is the group that is between the citizens and the Board of Supervisors.

- Mr. Rilk is working with Amy to develop a “year-in-review” report for the new Supervisors.

### 3. **Review of Source Water Protection within the Centre Region (Spring Creek Aquifer)**

- this water source affects everyone in the area (and is part of the Chesapeake Bay watershed).

- Centre region has a source water protection agreement that was initially developed in 2003 and updated in 2017.

#### **Aquifer details:**

1. ~ 175 square miles
2. ~ 200 billion gallons of water
3. recharge is estimated at 730,000 gallons/square mile

State College: while the number of meters are up, the total water usage is down (shows that people are conserving)

#### **Options to conserve:**

1. Integrated Water Management Plan – use less water
2. Beneficial Reuse – waste water is used for car washes, commercial laundries, golf courses, irrigation (not for drinking water)

#### **Next steps:**

1. Prepared. How has the Centre region historically handled drought?
2. Develop achievable goals
3. Continue to monitor water quality for contaminants

### 4. **PC Christmas party**

– usually the last meeting of the year. Hosted by the Naumans.

### 5. **Chesapeake Bay Report (from Ms. Steele)**

Discussion topic for the future.

How do we get the farmers to present what they are doing in terms of “Best Practices”?

- They can show off their farm
- Corey suggests a once/year presentation
- Some farmers are not happy with making changes.

## Reports

### **Centre Regional Planning Commission (Mr. Meehan)**

- Discussion of Halfmoon's SALDO and Water Quality presentation by Mr. Rilk.
- Discussion on the upcoming census.
- Commission is gathering data to study student housing changes related to the many new student housing buildings recently completed. Initial results show less students per rental unit.

### **Halfmoon Township Open Space Board (Mr. Nauman)**

- No meeting until January

### **Board of Supervisors/Managers report (Ms. Steele)**

- Supervisors approved SALDO and the Open Space amendment. There is lots of work on policy.

### **Centre Regional Planning Agency (Mr. Rilk)**

- Presentation

Next meeting will be January 7, 2020 and the will include reorganization.

Call for adjournment at 7:44 pm by Mr. Nauman, Mr. Meehan seconded.