

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in public hearing on Wednesday evening, March 9, 2011, in the Springfield Township Building for the purpose of receiving public comment related to the consideration of an amendment to the Springfield Township Zoning Code clarifying that the construction and maintenance of billboards is a permitted use in the Industrial Zoning District.

Mr. Harbison stated that the hearing was being held in compliance with Section 609 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code to consider an amendment to the Springfield Township Zoning Code clarifying that the construction and maintenance of billboard signs is a permitted use within the Industrial Zoning District.

Mr. Harbison announced that the legal requirements associated with the public hearing procedure have been met by publishing a notice of the proposed ordinance in the Springfield Sun issue of February 24, 2011, and notice of public hearing in the February 17 and 24, 2011 issues of the Springfield Sun. Notice of the public hearing was posted in both the Springfield Township Building and the Free Library of Springfield Township. Copies of the full text of the ordinance were available in the Springfield Township Building, in the offices of Montgomery Newspapers and in the Montgomery County Law Library.

Mr. Harbison noted that the Board of Commissioners is in the process of conducting a public hearing on the proposed Zoning Code amendments for the purpose of receiving public comment. No action will be taken on the Zoning Code amendment, however, official action of the Board of Commissioners is anticipated at their business meeting on April 13, 2011 in the Springfield Township Building.

Mr. Harbison called on Mr. Kilkenny, Township Solicitor, to read into the record the proposed ordinance in its entirety. The proposed ordinance shall amend Chapter 114, Zoning; Article II, Definitions; Article XI, Industrial District; and Article XIV, Signs; to amend the definition section of the Zoning Code by adding a definition of billboard; establishing the construction and maintenance of billboards as a permitted use in the Industrial Zoning District; and to set forth regulations within the permitted sign section of the Code; repealing all inconsistent ordinances; and providing an effective date.

Mr. Harbison stated that both the Montgomery County Planning Commission and the Springfield Township Planning Commission were asked to review the Zoning Code amendments regulating off-premises signs. In a letter dated March 1, 2011, the Montgomery County Planning Commission set forth their review comments. In a letter dated March 2, 2011, the Springfield Township Planning Commission stated their comments on the proposal.

## Public Comments

Mary Harkins, E. Willow Grove Avenue, asked for a description of the Industrial Zoning District locations throughout the Township. Mr. Berger provided same. Mr. Harbison noted that while the Board of Commissioners is working to cite billboards in the Industrial Zoning District in the future, the Township still needs to deal with the immediate Zoning Hearing Board application and an effort is under way to negotiate a settlement of same.

Michael Harkins, E. Willow Grove Avenue, asked for more clarification on the existing zoning, the pending legislation, and ongoing negotiations. Mr. Kilkenny reviewed the existing zoning and the application before the Zoning Hearing Board, the purpose of the legislation being discussed as part of the public hearing, and the need to negotiate a potential settlement with the applicant for billboards that is pending before the Zoning Hearing Board.

Motion (Heller-Peirce) carried unanimously to close the public hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald E. Berger, Jr.  
Secretary