

**AUGUSTA CHARTER TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION
OCTOBER 17, 2012
MINUTES**

1) **CALL TO ORDER** - The Regular Meeting of the Augusta Township Planning Commission was called to order on Wednesday, October 17, 2012 at 6:30 PM.

2) **ROLL CALL**

Members present: Keefe, McMahon, Selter, Thornton, Tobler. Excused: Chie. Zoning Administrator Ralph Pasola was present for Laura Kreps.

3) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Selter, supported by Keefe, to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2012 meeting as submitted. Vote was unanimous for approval.

4) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by McMahon, supported by Keefe, to approve the agenda as submitted. Vote was unanimous for approval.

5) **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

5a) **Text Amendment: Modifications to Section 6.24, Wireless Communication Facilities**

Motion by Selter, supported by Keefe, to open the Public Hearing at 6:33PM. Vote was unanimous for approval. Tobler gave a very brief introductory statement. As there were no members of the public present, motion by Keefe, supported by Thornton, to close the Public Hearing at 6:34PM. Vote was unanimous for approval.

5b) **Text Amendment: Modifications to Section 5.19, Keeping of Animals**

Motion by Selter, supported by Keefe, to open the Public Hearing at 6:35PM. Vote was unanimous for approval. Tobler presented the background regarding the keeping of household pets. There was discussion by the Planning Commission regarding the various proposed changes, and the need to address the Keeping of Farm Animals at a future time. There were no members of the public present. Motion by Keefe, supported by Thornton, to close the public hearing at 6:55PM. Vote was unanimous for approval.

6) **BUSINESS ITEMS**

6a) **Text Amendment: Modifications to Section 6.24, Wireless Communication Facilities**

The proposed changes are those required to have Section 6.24 consistent with the State statute. The state requires that cell towers be allowed as Special Uses in all zoning districts. A significant change is capping the "fees" that a township can charge against an application at \$1000. This will prevent Augusta Township from recovering its costs of review by the planner, the engineer and possibly the township attorney.

Motion by McMahon, supported by Tobler, to recommend to the Township Board the approval of the text changes to Section 6.24 Wireless Communication Facilities. Vote was unanimous for approval.

6b) Modifications to Section 5.19, Keeping of Animals

The proposed changes were again discussed. McMahon was concerned that the requirements for setbacks for private and commercial kennels would result in numerous variances. Motion by Tobler, supported by Keefe, to recommend to the Township Board the approval of the text changes to Section 5.19, Keeping of Animals. Aye: Keefe, Selter, Thornton, Tobler. Nay: McMahon. Motion approved.

7) OPEN DISCUSSION FOR ISSUES NOT ON THE AGENDA

7a) Correspondence Received – none

7b) Planning Commission Members – none

7c) Members of the Audience – none

8) REPORT OF TOWNSHIP BOARD REPRESENTATIVE – none

9) REPORT OF ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS REPRESENTATIVE – absent. Tobler reported his understanding of a recent ZBA meeting regarding an agricultural pole barn on Bemis Road for a front yard variance.

10) REPORT OF THE PLANNING CONSULTANT – none

11) ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Keefe, supported by Thornton, to adjourn. Vote was unanimous for approval. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



William E Tobler, Secretary
Planning Commission