

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING
PLANNING COMMISSION**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015

The West Reading Planning Commission met for their regular meeting on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at Borough Hall with the following persons present: Chair Philip Wert, Christopher Lincoln, Jennifer Bressler, Terry Siggins and Christin Kelley. Maxine Goodwin was unable to attend.

Visitors: None

Mr. Wert called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and introduced new commissioner Mr. Oswald Herbert.

General Code Codification Project

It was noted that the work session planned for November 16th did not occur because it might have been in contravention of the Sunshine Act. Therefore discussion of the first 20 pages of the Editorial Analysis was begun.

The following changes were recommended:

General Decisions:

- Binder Burgundy with Silver Lettering; electronic image of seal will be emailed
- Nomenclature There is no other global nomenclature changes to impose throughout the Code
- Penalties The possibility of imposing public service instead of a fine was discussed. It was decided that the best option was to accept their recommendation that criminal enforcement would require a \$1000 maximum fine and civil enforcement \$600 maximum fine.
- Code Adoption Because the complete review of ordinances has been undertaken by the Commission it was suggested that Option 1 'clean slate' should be used.

Part I – Administrative Legislation

CHAPTER	TITLE	DECISION	REASON
7	Auditor, Independent	No revision	Chapter reflects current practice
12	Authorities, Municipal Article I – JMAWV Article 2 – West Reading School Article III – Western Berks Refuse Article IV – Western Berks Water Article V – West Reading Main Street	No revision Delete No revision No revision No revision	Article is current Authority no longer exists Article is current Article is current Article is current
20	Delinquent Tax Collector	Repeal	County provides this service
26	Emergency Management Agency	No revision	Chapter is current
30	Environmental Response	No revision	Chapter is current
34	Environmental Advisory Council	Update statutory reference	Act was repealed in 1996 and needs to be updated to new reference as recommended

39	Fire Department – Part A. Fire Department – Part B.	None at this time Replace	Chief Burkholder is reviewing this section in its entirety Earlier decision concerning penalties at \$1000
44	Firemen’s Relief Association	No revision	Chapter is current
51	Infrastructure Committee	No revision	Chapter is current
65	Officers and Employees Article I – Manager Article II – Building Officer	Revise 207 (f) Delete 207 (h) Revise 207 (i) No revision	Revise spending limits per current Purchasing Policy Annual report is outdated Remove zoning officer and building inspector as duties Article appears correct
72	Pensions and Retirement Article I – Social Security Article II – Retirement Age Article III – Police Pension Article IV – Municipal Pension	Repeal Repeal Revise No revision	Participation is now mandatory Mandatory retirement age is unlawful Several sections require revisions. Jeanette is reviewing this section. Article is current
78	Planning Commission	Revise	Powers and duties per the MPC
83	Police Department Article I – Mutual Aid	Revise	83-1.B change to with “other” municipal governments for police protection
92	Recreation Commission	No revision	Chapter is accurate and current
97	Salaries and Compensation Article I – Mayor and Council Article II – Tax Collector	Revise Revise	Payments are made quarterly. ‘Designated official’ is too vague. Also, mandatory continuing education should be noted
103	Shade Tree Commission	Revise	Add section on terms to be served
110	Wyomissing Creek Watershed	No revision	Section is current

The Commission also decided to schedule additional working sessions on January 14, February 11 and March 10 (in addition to the regular Planning Commission meetings) in order to complete this project in a timely manner. These dates will be added to the meeting schedule for 2016 and advertised.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Hoffman
 Administrative Assistant