

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING
PLANNING COMMISSION**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2016

The West Reading Planning Commission met for their regular meeting on Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at the Borough Hall with the following persons present: Chair Philip Wert, Jennifer Bressler, Oswald Herbert, Nicholas Imbesi, Christin Kelley, Christopher Lincoln, and Terry Siggins.

Visitors: Tom Unger, SDE

Mr. Wert called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.
There was no public comment.

OLD BUSINESS

The Lofts at Narrow

Engineer Pat Motley was not present for discussion of the second letter. Kevin Hughes had contacted Mr. Wert regarding the Planning Commission's comments in the letter, specifically questions regarding the easement with Designers Place, and right of way issues not in the deed. Mr. Hughes has not responded to either letters officially.
Mr. Unger left the meeting at this point.

NEW BUSINESS

Equus Capital Partners (VF Developers) – Multimodal Letter of Support

An Executive Summary of the project was provided outlining the location, description, local tax and economic impact, and funding request. The grant that is being pursued requires PC approval and the vote of the Borough Council, which will indicate consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and other land use planning objectives. A draft of the letter was prepared by Cathy Hoffman, Interim Borough Manager and made available to the Commission.

Moved by Ms. Kelley and seconded by Mr. Imbesi to recommend to Council the sending of a letter of support of the Equus Multimodal Project. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Review of Liquor Transfer Fee Schedule

The current fee is \$500. An increase to \$1,000 was discussed, which would cover application fees, solicitors' fees, and zoning fees. Documentation pertaining to attorney fees for recent Liquor License transfers and fee schedules for Spring Township and Exeter Township were reviewed.

Moved by Mr. Siggins and seconded by Mr. Herbert to recommend to Council to increase the Liquor License Transfer Fee from \$500 to \$1000. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Comprehensive Plan Update

The cost of updating the Comprehensive Plan may be \$24,000. A brief discussion of the available grants and the relative value in pursuing them took place. Mr. Wert reiterated that the update may be coming up in the next year.

Codes Review

The Committee is continuing to review the General Code Manuscript. The review began at Chapter 26 Emergency Management Agency and ended at the completion of Chapter 65 Officers and Employees. The following was discussed:

§ 39-4 – The “term of one year” is done internally.

§ 39-6 – The “standing committee on Protection of Property and Persons” name change to the Public Safety Committee and enabled as such.

§ 39-7 – Remove language involving Mayor upon conviction for unauthorized interference. Change fine schedule to civil enforcement wording.

§ 51-2 – Is the Code Compliance Officer included in membership of Infrastructure Committee?

§ 51-4 – Should the term of one year be adjusted?

§ 65-3 – Is the age qualification of 21 years discriminatory? The borough solicitor will be consulted.

§ 65-4,6,7 - Replace all instances of “he” with “the Manager.”

§65-9 – The necessity of the existence of the Building Officer was questioned. Are we legally required to accommodate the office? The borough solicitor will be consulted.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Bressler

Planning Commission member