

The Northern Lehigh Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan

Zoning Update Meeting Minutes

May 14th, 2024 at 5:30 PM, Washington Township, Lehigh County

Steering Committee Attendees:

Brian Carl-Weisenberg Township

Linda Gorgas-Weisenberg Township

Tony Werley-Weisenberg Township

Wade Marlatt-Washington Township

Tom Dengler-Washington Township

Shawn Wanamaker-Washington Township

Ron Jerdon-Lynn Township

Dave Fink-Heidelberg Township

Dan Stevens-Slatington Borough

Brian Dietrich-Lynn Township

Fritz Najarian-Lynn Township

Dawn Didra-Heidelberg Township

Curt Dietrich-Lowhill Township (Via Zoom)

Members of the Public in Attendance:

Brooke Lichtenwalter-Washington Township Secretary

Katie Fabian-Heidelberg Township Secretary

Planning Partners in Attendance:

Carolyn Yagle-EPD

Courtesy of the Floor/Public Comment: None

Approval of the Minutes: 4/2/24 minutes approved by motion of Brian Dietrich/2nd Dan Stevens-all committee members were in favor.

EPD Invoice #8

No comments were received regarding EPD Invoice #8. It was paid at the last Weisenberg Board Meeting. Invoice #9 was just received.

Brian received the agreement from Becky at LVPC regarding the County's contribution. The agreement will be emailed out to the group, and each municipality must sign it in order for us to draw on the \$85,000.00.

LVPC was unable to attend tonight due to their General Assembly event. LVPC is looking to change the way submissions are sent to them because they are occasionally getting a different plan than what developers are giving to the municipality. LVPC will send information out to our municipalities that was discussed during the general assembly event.

Discussion was had regarding Bill 1126. Brian has been in contact with Gary Day who works for Senator Coleman (plan sponsor) and will draft a letter outlining Weisenberg's concerns. The letter will be shared with the group. Everyone is encouraged to contact Senator Coleman's office regarding their concerns with this pending legislation.

EPD:

Carolyn Yagle of the EPD was the presenter for the continuation of this meeting series.

Official Map Drafts

Map drafts are about 75% finished and will be sent to each township later on this month. Map drafts include everything that was requested. The maps generally include municipal owned area parks. Some include places of worship, schools and federal land. There can be other items added to the maps depending on the township. If there is anything that needs to be amended, the EPD can work on this.

For the maps, they should be labeled with a draft watermark or footers on every page. Dates should be added to see the progression made.

Definitions were discussed. EPD is modifying definitions in order to have some consistency between municipalities. Any items specific to a municipality was moved to the supplemental regulations section. If a municipality had specific regulations over a basic definition that will be listed in a color on the other drafts incase another municipality would like to use it.

Municipal Document

A. Individual Review (Target Dates)

For the individual township meetings, they will be scheduled in June. The next six township meeting will be in July. Dates will be TBD.

B. Update

Map drafts will be finalized and sent to the townships for review by the end of this month. Dates for upcoming meetings for individual townships and all townships together will be announced.

C. Adoption Process

A 45 day review/public comment period will be required for the zoning ordinances and then will need to be adopted within 90 days. The timeline goal would be to have adoption done by this coming September. Each municipality must decide if they will adopt an entirely new zoning ordinance and map, or just the sections that were amended.

Next Steps

Townships will wait to receive their updated Official Maps from the EPD. Future meeting dates will be announced.

Next meeting will be scheduled for July, date TBD at the Washington Township Municipal Building, Lehigh County.

Meeting ended 5/14/24 at 7:28 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Brooke Lichtenwalter

Secretary/Treasurer

Washington Township, Lehigh County