
**FREEDOM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING January 3, 2012**

1. Pledge of Allegiance: 7:36 pm

2. Call to order: Roll call: Little, Huehl – (absent), Lindemann, Ochs, and Schaible

3. Adoption of Agenda: Motion – Little Supported – Schaible 4-0 approved
New business moved ahead of old business

4. Approval of minutes: Motion - Ochs Supported - Little

Approved 4-0 to accept as presented dispensed with the Reading of the minutes from December 6, 2011 Regular Meeting.

5. Communications: MTA news, Discussion focused on an Article in the MTA News about Mineral Extraction Regulations, and the MTA Training Session

6. Audience Participation: A member of the audience may address the commission (3 minute per member). If the issue/discussion warrants further attention, it may appear as a future agenda item. None Heard

7. Old Business:

- 1) Stoneco extraction renewal application – Review application items submitted
 - a. Started with Section 8.01 of the Planners Report

8.01 The applicant is asking for a waiver from Ordinance 32.0 Section 6.04 Setbacks

“Stoneco would like to request a variance from this section to indicate “mining around the wetland areas shall be performed as permitted by the MDEQ”

TOWNSHIP ACTION – MOTION – Lindemann wait until application is supplied by the MDEQ and recommendations are presented to the Township for proper setbacks Supported by Little – Roll Call – Little, Ochs, Schaible, Lindemann Motion Carried unanimously 4-0 – Huehl absent

8.02 The applicant is requesting a waiver from Ordinance 32.0 Section 6.07 Berms

“Stoneco requests a variance from establishing the east berm in Cell 2 that was proposed to be constructed during mining of Cell 2. We believe enough natural screening is located between the Cell 2 boundary and the east property line that would warrant eliminating additional screening.”

TOWNSHIP ACTION – MOTION – Schaible that the natural areas would continue as a natural buffer and an agreement would be generated between the Township and the Applicant to leave the natural areas in a natural vegetative state as depicted as an outline of “non-disturbance area” on the approved mining plan. This is in lieu of berming through the natural wetland areas adjacent to cell C-2 (eastern border) - Supported by – Little Roll Call – Little, Ochs, Schaible, Lindemann Motion Carried unanimously 4-0 absent - Huehl

Conditional Use Stoneco – Numbering has been corrected and the 17 original items is corrected to reflect the 16 items.

A Written Outline describing the timeline to obtain outside governmental permits shall be supplied by the applicant, and the Township shall be notified if the timetable changes. This item shall be submitted as part of the annual report.

MDEQ – Three months to begin the application process

WCRC – Have not started the application process

Section 6 of the Planners Report should be used as a template for the operators permit.

- Reflect the changes to the report

Section 32 of the ordinance was reviewed to make sure that no other items needed to be included in the review process. –

- 6.13 transferability clause should be written into the operators permit
- Escrow should be collected as part of the renewal approval

Applicant is to supply a final mining plan all documents are to be completed and distributed by January 20th - supply the Township with a CD of the complete packet for a final version – and annual report will be presented in an electronic form for the PC.

- 2) Zoning ordinance update. Sections 1 – 5, continue to review Article 5 time permitting
 - b. Tabled to the next meeting

8. New Business:

- 1) Elections of officers for 2012 – Motion to keep the 2011 Officers the same for 2012 – Little Supported by Schaible – Roll Call – 4-0 vote Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Chair: Lindemann

Vice Chair: Ochs

Secretary: Huehl

- 2) Set calendar for 2012

Motion to accept the first Tuesday of every month as the regular Planning Commission Meeting day for 2012 – Lindemann Supported – Little

Motion Carried by a voice vote 4-0

- 3) Review 2011 activity report

Created by Huehl and read into record by Lindemann

- 4) C & T Materials, update from township board?

Item covered by discussion about Township Board update from Schaible

9. Reports: Chair, Township Board Rep., ZBA Rep., Planning Consultant, Township Officials.

1. Joint Planning Meeting is scheduled for January 17th.
2. Freedom Township is withdrawing from the Joint Planning Commission
3. Lindemann would like to know when the State revenue sharing timeline before the Township reapplies to Joint Planning Commission.

SWCOG next meeting January 11, 2012

1. Susan Ochs is reappointed on a staggered term.
2. Board Report – a resident from Sharon Township stated that the new Township Board would like to consider cooperative governmental agreements.

No other reports given

10. Audience Participation: A member of the audience may address the commission (3 minute per member). If the issue/discussion warrants further attention, it may appear as a future agenda item. – NONE HEARD

11. Items on Next Month Agenda: Zoning ordinance update, Annual Gravel pit reports, Stoneco permit renewal.

12. Adjournment: 9:14 Lindemann moves Little supported