

The special meeting of Polk Township Supervisors and Planning Commission was held on September 25, 2018 at 6:30pm. Members present: Brian K. Ahner, Carl S. Heckman, Michael D. Hurley, Gary Bruch, Mark Giunta, and Zoning Officer, Justin Burker.

The purpose of the special meeting was to discuss a possible Nuisance Ordinance. Members were given copies of sample ordinances and templates.

Fireworks- Discussion on enforcement.

Renter/ Landlords responsibility- Discussion on where responsibility lies regarding property maintenance.

- I. PSATS Example Nuisance Ordinance
 - a. MERCHANDISE, Advertising Matter, Signs (A & B) - Discussion on permits for solicitation in the township. If solicitors called, their information would be taken. 'No signs are allowed at any time in the sight of an intersection' should be added to this section.
 - b. Obstructing Streets (G & P) - Discussion on adding "water" to this section regarding past issues of draining water onto a road and creating a hazardous situation on roads.
 - c. Loud Noise (J) - Discussion on how to enforce after hours and the repercussions. Discussion a 150 foot distance a noise can be heard to measure the nuisance.
 - d. Posting Advertisements (K)- Interested in this section regarding signs on poles,
 - e. Odor (M) – Interested in this section and will discuss at a later date.
 - f. Obstructing Streets (P) – Discussion on action against commercial vehicles that block streets with no safety cones or signage. Discussion on vehicles blocking streets for residents to plow or shovel their driveways.
 - g. Blasting Rock (S) - Interested in this policy.
 - h. Junk (Y) - Discussion on the definitions of junk. Discussion on using the word "nuisance" verses "junk". Zoning Officer Burker suggested using fences or sheds to hide collections of items.
- II. Chestnuthill Ordinances
 - a. Trash cans- Ahner stated that Trash cans being left at the road on days besides the pickup days are a problem. It is an issue when plowing. Discussion on adding it to the West End Happenings' ad and on the winter maintenance flyer.
 - b. Responsibility (74-4) - this section defines the responsibility between landlord and renters. Interested in this section.
 - c. Junk (74-6) - Discussion on definitions of junk under 74-18.
 - d. Dangerous Premises (74-8) – Interested in this subject. Discussion on responsibility of clean- up if there isn't any insurance on the property.
 - e. Vegetation (74-10) – Discussion on issues with overgrown trees in the township.
 - f. Streets (74-13) – Committee liked Section B

- g. Drainage (74-14) - This section covers concerns about throwing materials into the street.
- h. Others (74-17) – possible disclaimer at the end of the ordinance
- i. Article VII- Dangerous Premises- Discussion on who enforces this Ordinance. Burker stated that John Blick would inspect the property. Discussion on having an ordinance like this and the liability the township would carry. A complaint would have to be filed for any action to be taken.
- j. Discussion on the definitions in this ordinance and if it's pertinent to have list of definitions in the ordinance.

Discussion starting with a simple property maintenance ordinance and staying away from any junk ordinance. Next meeting will continue with Stroudsburg's Ordinance. A corrected copy of Chestnuthill Township's Nuisance Ordinance will be given out for next meeting, also.

Chairman Heckman adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rebecca Tippett

Planning Commission Recording Secretary