

**ECONOMY BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MARCH REGULAR MEETING**

*DATE: March 7, 2016*

Present: J. Blumling, D. Carlson, D. Lang, R. Loedding, M. Lincheck (Planning Commission Consultant), A. Mutschler, B. Meegan, C. Pesolyar.

Absent: R. Kowal, M. Kowalski.

Others Present: none.

After review, the minutes from the February 1, 2016 meeting were approved on a motion by Dick Loedding. Seconded by Don Lang.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Small Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS): Planning Commission consultant Lincheck provided an overview to the group on the article "Overview of Small UAS Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" prepared by the FAA and the State and Local Regulation of UAS Fact Sheet for the FAA Office of Chief Counsel. Discussion followed concerning what role there will be for the Planning Commission regarding such matters, if any. Group agreed to continue to monitor what is happening with UAS and the FAA.

2. Establishing Standards for Solar Panels: Planning Commission consultant Licheck distributed Moon Township Ordinance No. 660 for review and discussion. At present, there a few instances of solar panels on homes and/or as free-standing structures in the borough. After discussion, the group requested that consultant Lincheck prepare draft ordinance using the Moon Township ordinance as a starting point. Consultant Lincheck will email the group a draft ordinance prior to the April meeting. Separately, Chairman Blumling to check with the borough office to learn how solar panels are treated currently with regards to building permits, etc.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Tiny Homes: Audrey Mutschler provided information regarding a TV news story (WTAE channel 4) that broadcast on February 8, 2016, concerning a woman (Rachel Ford) looking for a place to place her 320 square foot "tiny house". The story, reported by Michelle Wright, mentioned her inquiry into Economy Borough and referenced the borough's 700 square foot house size minimum. Group discussed the appeal of the "tiny house" movement and the need to monitor its progress.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Safety Meeting in New Sewickley Township for First Responders: Don Lang attended the meeting that occurred on February 15<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6 p.m. at the Big Knob Grange. He reported that it was a review of safety rules and procedures focused on DEP standards. The meeting lasted about 3 hours.

Motion to adjourn by Bob Meegan, seconded by Don Lang. Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

