

***BOROUGH OF CARLISLE
PLANNING COMMISSION***

Meeting Minutes - January 22, 2015

Members in Attendance: Tim Tilton, Abby Smith, Justin Smith, Christopher Rice, John Sugars, Christian Muniz and Ed Bidelspach.

Borough Officials in Attendance: Bruce Koziar, Planning/Zoning/Codes Manager and Mark Malarich, Public Works Director.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Items Reviewed by the Planning Commission:

1. The Planning Commission considered recommending approval with respect to adopting an ordinance to establish uniform standards for the siting, design, permitting, maintenance and use of wireless communications facilities in the Borough of Carlisle.

Tim Tilton suggested that language be included in the "Replacement" section to encourage the replacement equipment to be smaller and lighter than the original equipment.

Bruce Koziar gave a brief summary for the reason for this ordinance. Due to the high demand for faster service, companies want to place a more telecommunications equipment on more buildings throughout the Borough. Originally, this equipment was proposed to be banned from the Historic District, however; state law prohibits that. Therefore, this ordinance was created to help regulate the impact these towers/equipment will have on the downtown and surrounding areas of the Borough.

Bruce explained that the "stealth technology" is a state-of-the-art technology that helps blend these types of objects into its surroundings. For example, they can be made to look like a telephone pole, a tree, etc.

Chris Rice stated that he's had experience with "stealth technology" and that sometimes a "stealth" version is more obvious than a regular cell tower. The human eye is accustomed to seeing a cell tower, but sometimes when you add branches to it to make it look like a tree, that can be more eye-catching than a regular tower. He also said that color is a big consideration. By painting the tower the same color and its surroundings helps considerably.

Conclusion: The Planning Commission, upon motion by John Sugars and second by Just Smith, unanimously recommended approval of the proposed ordinance with

the inclusion of verbage under the "Replacement" section to encourage the use of smaller, lighter new equipment.

2. The Planning Commission may recommend approval of the summary of discussion points on the Urban Mixed Use (UM) Zoning District.

Bruce Koziar reviewed the attached memo and discussion points from Sean Garrigan of Stromberg Garrigan and Associates, Inc. with the Planning Commission. Mr. Garrigan was hired by the Borough of Carlisle to review our Comprehensive Plan and make needed changes and recommendations.

The underlined sections on the attached memo are the sections Mr. Garrigan proposes to add/change/delete in the proposed ordinance.

Conclusion: The Planning Commission, upon motion by Christopher Rice and second by Christian Muniz, unanimously voted to incorporate the proposed changes into the UM Urban Mixed Use District section of the proposed ordinance.

Justin Smith asked staff if Stromberg, Garrigan and Associates could make presentation to the Planning Commission regarding the Comprehensive Plan. Bruce Koziar explained that several public meetings were held and that it is very expensive for Mr. Garrigan to travel here. His office is located in Somerset, Pennsylvania and the north east. Bruce offered that staff could give a presentation to the Planning Commission. It was suggested that this presentation be done at the March 2015 Planning Commission meeting.

There being no further items on the agenda, the Planning Commission adjourned at approximately 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce Koziar
Planning/Zoning/Codes Manager