

Hamiltonban Township
Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission
Joint Meeting Minutes for Updating Sign Ordinances
23 Carrolls Tract Road, Fairfield, PA 17320
May 15, 2008

Supervisors Present: Chairman Robert L. Gordon, Vice-chairman James E. Grinder, Police Coordinator Coleen N. Reamer, and James E. Benner

Planning Commission Members Present: William Shriner, and Pamela Wiehagen
Chairman Curt Musselman and Vice-chairman Stephen Jacobs had other commitments.

Staff: Zoning Officer Milton Nicks and Secretary/Treasurer LuAnn M. Dille

Public: Barbara Nicks, Dale and Doreen Premo, Harry Rood, Doug Woerner, and Rick Fulton from the Gettysburg Times

At 7:30 PM Chairman Gordon called the meeting to order.

Chairman Gordon called for a Board of Supervisors Executive Session at the conclusion of this meeting to discuss personnel issues.

Chairman Gordon stated that the meeting tonight is to begin discussion on updating Hamiltonban Township's Zoning Ordinance, Article III, Section 309 concerning signs. Recently the Township received a copy of Straban Township's Article 8, Sign Regulations, correspondences from Mr. Curtis Musselman, and Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Munch. Today the Township received a copy of Mount Joy's Table of Miscellaneous Signs and their Freestanding and Wall Signs Table.

Zoning Officer Nicks started the discussion by asking the question what is the definition of a temporary sign and the time period for a temporary sign. No conclusions were reached but the Township's current Zoning Ordinance has a good list of temporary signs that may be refined.

It was generally agreed that temporary signs would be 30 days before the event and must be removed two working days after the event.

Agriculture products are allowed to be sold in season.

Contractor signs are allowed as long as the work is being done and then removed promptly.

General consensus was that Straban Township's definition of a sign was acceptable. Their definition is:

- (1) Sign area shall include all lettering, wording and accompanying design and symbols, together with related background areas on which they display. One freestanding sign may include several signs that are all attached to one structure, with total sign area being the total areas of all signs on the structure.
- (2) The sign area shall not include any structurally supporting framework, bracing or clearly defined wooded framing if such area does not include any display, lettering or sign and if such area is clearly incidental to the sign itself.

There should be no lettering on the holder.

In Hamiltonban Township's Commercial and Industrial Zoning Districts one sign per business is permitted.

The question was asked if sign permits and fees are to be issued one time or would need to be renewed periodically. It was generally agreed to issue sign permits once but any changes in size must be re-permitted

Election signs are allowed with the permission of the property owner.

More information is needed from Penn-Dot as to their regulations of the signage in their right-of-way. The property owner permission should be required and a permit obtained from the Township.

Customary Home Occupation permitted businesses are allowed a sign as part of the current permit. It was suggested to have a separate charge for their sign.

The current ordinance in reference to sandwich signs will not be changed. Sandwich signs are illegal in Hamiltonban Township per current ordinance.

These topics were mentioned:

- (1) Current signs at Towne Center
- (2) Sander's Square sandwich sign
- (3) Spacing between signs
- (4) Illuminated Signs-internally and externally
- (5) Signs inside windows
- (6) Yard Sales Signs
- (7) Event Signs
- (8) Crosses and other items at accident sites must have the permission from the property owner.

All permanent business related signs must obtain a permit before installation, and a fee will be charged according to size. These charges are to off set the cost of the zoning officer's salary and mileage costs. Currently there are fees in the Commercial and Industrial Zoning Districts for signs. Ordinances will establish the regulations with fees schedules set by resolution.

Directional and public safety signs are allowed and do not require a permit or fees.

At 8:59 PM Mr. Shriner made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Police Coordinator Reamer. The Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission unanimously approved this motion.

The Board of Supervisors went into an Executive Session.

Secretary/Treasurer LuAnn M. Dille

Chairman Robert L. Gordon