

The stated meeting of the Administrative Code and Land Use Committee of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington was held on Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA., with Commissioner Brodsky presiding.

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:16 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Commissioners BRODSKY, THOMPSON,  
GILLESPIE, CARSWELL, WINEGRAD

Township Manager MANFREDI  
Assistant Township Manager WEHMEYER  
Township Solicitor CLARKE  
Township Engineer MONTGOMERY

Also Present: Commissioners LUKER, KLINE,  
ROTHMAN, ZAPPONE, SCHREIBER, DiPLACIDO,  
VAHEY, SPIEGELMAN, MYERS

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Brodsky made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Thompson to approve the minutes of the Administrative Code and Land Use Committee Meeting of September 4, 2019.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

**PRESENTATION:** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT – general matters relating to Administrative Code and Land Use.**

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, stated that “I do not like that the Economic Development Corporation was approved without seeing the text because it wasn’t finished and the vote for a hearing will fast-track it. Also, I am concerned about developers who ask for text/map amendments that change our zoning and an Economic Development Corporation being in control of that.”

Vice President Kline clarified that the Board has not approved anything except to advertise to hold a hearing at a future date, which has not been decided on. The bylaws and ordinance that governs an EDC has not been created at this point and there will be a vetting process. So the speaker's comments are completely false and no Economic Development Corporation has been created.

Natalie Sherstyuk, 1165 Delene Road, asked, "how could there be a vote to advertise when there are no bylaws or articles of incorporation, and it does expedite the process, and I hope what Obermayer is proposing is not going to be in the bylaws because bidding requirements are important, and I do not want the Board to develop a corporation to do the job that you were voted in to do."

Manager Manfredi said under the law, every ordinance needs to be advertised and ample notice has to be given that a hearing will be held, so the Township is complying with the law as required and the public will be able to make comment at the hearing. It does not expedite, it initiates the process. Also, projects managed through the corporation will be their responsibility and not the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Gillespie clarified that there will be an informational session held. Is that correct?

Manager Manfredi replied yes, Commissioners Spiegelman and Vahey will be holding an informational session on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m., so as to be transparent in providing all of the information to residents.

Commissioner Myers requested that the informational session be televised.

Ron Holt, 2564 Rubicam Avenue, stated that, "there has been problems in Philadelphia where these redevelopment authorities takeover because they have their own agenda once they get the power, so don't give your power away, and I do not want our Township Commissioners to be involved in something that could cause unintended consequences."

Manager Manfredi replied that this will not be a redevelopment authority and it does not function under the statutes of the Commonwealth. It is a completely separate entity.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Manfredi, Township Manager/Secretary

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