

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Harpersfield Trustees held a public hearing on February 10, 2020, from 6:30 PM to 6:50 PM at the Harpersfield Township Administration Building, 1481 Harpersfield Road to consider proposed amendments to the zoning text resolution.

Present: Raymond Gruber Jr Edwin Spoor James Pristov Sharon Rohrbaugh Larry Lister

Ray turned the hearing over to Ed as he is zoning liaison.

The Zoning Commission spent a lot of time working to merge the existing zoning resolution with the 2018 text amendment that included numerous changes to the regulations for the commercial and industrial districts. The proposed text amendments are: incorporate all of the 2018 and subsequent text amendments into the regular Township zoning resolution; renumber all sections of the zoning resolution and update cross-references; create a new table of contents; changed to gender-inclusive language; add, revise and delete a number of definitions in Article 2.

The Ashtabula County Planning Commission reviewed the proposed text amendments and commended the Zoning Commission for their arduous task and made a few recommendations.

The Board discussed the recommendation in Article 6: for the Township to consider posting a sign on the property in question that neighboring property owners could see as they drive past the property. The Board thought this a good idea and will pursue further information.

The recommendation for Article 7: to clarify the zoning map is adopted by the Board of Trustees not the Zoning Commission. The zoning text language should specify the Board of Trustees sign and Fiscal Officer attests.

The recommendation for Article 12: removing what is now 1206.7 because of the reference to political signs; any limitation of free speech would be considered to be a violation of the First Amendment; place a limit on the total size of temporary signs that may be on a property (example, no more than 32 sq. ft. of temporary signs are allowed); remove the requirement to obtain a permit for a temporary sign.

The public hearing adjourned

Raymond Gruber Jr

Edwin Spoor

James Pristov

Sharon Rohrbaugh