



OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
(570) 587-1520  
FAX (570) 587-1674

# NEWTON TOWNSHIP

AN AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY

1528 Newton-Ransom Blvd.  
Clarks Summit, PA 18411

## **Newton Township Board of Supervisors' Ordinance Hearing March 8, 2010**

Board Members in Attendance: John Pardue, Ron Koldjeski and Douglas Pallman

Board Guests in Attendance: Joseph Sileo, Solicitor; Scot Haan, CEO; and Francine Miller, Secretary/Treasurer

7:03 P.M. – Ordinance Hearings Called to Order with Pledge of Allegiance.

Sileo opened the hearing stating that an amendment to the cell tower ordinance is under consideration tonight and has been duly advertised as a hearing before a meeting immediately following this hearing. This ordinance will amend the zoning ordinance and replace the existing ordinance in effect. Recommendation from Newton Planning Commission was to leave the ordinance alone and make no changes. Lackawanna County Planning Commission had no issues with the amendment except that there was an issue with the numbering of some items. Sileo opened the hearing to the public for any input to consider the amendment. Sileo pointed out that there will be no vote at this hearing but a vote may be considered at the general meeting directly following this hearing.

There was a question to the solicitor from Verizon Wireless, Rich Williams, to explain what collocation is. He explained that there would be an existing tower or building and the process is that someone can come in and add antennas to the building or tower instead of erecting a new structure which is more economical and efficient

### **Public Input**

Scot Haan stated that he believes that this is not an amendment as much as a change in the ordinance and that the setbacks are not addressed in this ordinance.

Koldjeski stated that he would like to see one ordinance with any changes underlined to make this clearer.

After much discussion, it was determined that this ordinance would completely replace the existing ordinance and would negate our standing cell tower ordinance and add this new ordinance to our zoning ordinance. Koldjeski stated that we should continue this hearing and get public input and table the issue until further information is gathered.

Attorney Williams stated that this is a very good ordinance and believes that the original ordinance has deficiencies and eliminates a vast majority of manufacturing districts with the setback restrictions. The original ordinance also has significant wetland issues. He stated that the Board may want to consider allowing placing towers in other districts.

Haan stated that the setbacks are not just for collapsing but other things as well. With the standing ordinance, as is, someone can make a request to be in another district.

Being no more public input and discussion, **Koldjeski motioned to adjourn the hearing to an executive meeting before the General Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pardue. Motion voted, all in favor.**



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Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM

Respectfully submitted by Francine Miller