

UPPER OXFORD TOWNSHIP
APRIL 24, 2017

Upper Oxford Township Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting at the Township Building, 1185 Limestone Road, Russellville, PA on Monday, April 24, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Scott A. Rugen
Howard Reyburn
Charles Fleischmann

Jane Daggett, Secretary

OTHERS: Dave Underwood Elizabeth Randolph
Harold Bryson Gary Calibey
Karl Herr

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Scott Rugen.

RIPARIAN BUFFERS – At the last CCATO conference Scott attended, Brandywine Conservancy presented a panel discussion on the use of riparian buffers to improve water quality. This sample ordinance was approved and enacted in some townships in Chester County. If Upper Oxford is interested in pursuing this, it will provide valuable tools. The Brandywine Conservancy will provide technical assistance with reviewing our existing zoning ordinances and definitions. We could then adopt this as a stand alone ordinance or incorporate into our SALDO or Zoning Ordinance Books. Having this in our zoning books would require any changes to go through the Zoning Hearing Board. If it is a Stand Alone Ordinance it would be more beneficial to the land owners. Questions arising from this discussion are as follows:

- If part of zoning would it apply to all property with stream
- Concerns on width of buffers
- Incentive program to land owners
- What is defined as riparian buffers
- MS4 requirements
- How it affects the volunteer aspect of funding and the burden on farmers if funding is not provided
- Prudent approach – encourages farmers to do the CRP

Scott will provided copies of the pamphlet to the Planning Commission for their review and then we can decide if we want to seek technical help from the Conservancy. The Township will also see if we can provided an overlay map of the steams and tax parcels.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE – The Supervisors would like the Zoning Officer to attend a future meeting to discuss certain issues he is confronted with. The intent of adopting this code is not to apply aesthetics guidelines to properties but would give the Township authority to take action if a property is a safety and health hazard.

DOG KENNEL DAY CARE – The Supervisors received an email regarding a dog day care facility. Our Zoning Ordinance call six or more dogs a kennel which requires 10 acre parcels. Our ordinances cannot be less restrictive than the Pennsylvania State Laws. The resident was informed that the Supervisors cannot give advice on zoning matters since they may end up in front of the Zoning Hearing board.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business, motion was made by Howard Reyburn and carried unanimously to adjourn at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Daggett, Secretary

