

**UPPER NAZARETH TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION
100 NEWPORT AVENUE
NAZARETH, PA 18064**

MINUTES OF March 14th, 2019

The regular meeting of the Upper Nazareth Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM on Thursday March 14th, 2019, in the Township Building.

Present were: Chairman, Scott Sylvainus; Vice Chair Pamela Berlew; Secretary, Stephen Bacak; Wilhelmina Donnelly, Jay Benfield

Absent: Township Engineer Dr. Sean Dooley; Township Solicitor, Gary Asteak; Zoning Officer, John Soloe

Pamela Berlew made a motion and seconded by Jay Benfield for the approval of February 2019 minutes. The ayes 5 - 0.

New Business:

Northampton County Regional Forensic Center –

Paul Szewczak of Liberty Engineering introduced the project as a sketch plan. It is a single story 23,892 sq ft government building to be located on 90.7 acre parcel of the Northampton County Gracedale campus. The property is zoned as GS or government services. The building will be located 210 feet from Gracedale Ave and in front of the existing 911 center. Access will be with the existing driveway to Gracedale Ave. There will also be 36 parking spaces for visitors and employees. The services to the facilities will be in the back with garage doors. It will also house county vehicles.

Glenn Lichtenwalner, architect, from w2adesign. The main entrance would be office space and there will also be a body lab and appropriate storage. The back of the house would be the service entrance. The front will have nice materials and the back would be metal.

All utilities would be used off the Gracedale complex. The storm water basins will be reconfigured for this building. And it will meet all storm water requirements.

Pamela Berlew – Is this area being farmed? Paul - No The building will be in the lawn area and there will be no impact to the 911 entrance with deliveries.

Scott Sylvainus – How many employees will be working there? Glenn – about 12 employees and may vary will local events.

Scott Sylvanius – Where have you been operating? Glenn – Use facilities at Louise Moore Park and rent other facilities. This needs to be done with the growth of the county.

The building will look like an over sized house with a peaked 14' 3:12 roof. There are other peaked roofs on the campus. The lab will be a digital forensic lab as well so it will be done in house. There will be back up generators. Chemicals used will be similar to a medical facility or funeral home. This will help the local police and district attorney. The heliport is vacated and is no longer needed in the county. There will be no crematory on site. Time line is potentially completed by summer of 2020.

Old Business:

Residents concerned with Project Tadmor. Jason Mohap send a letter to township with concerns and questions of the project. The planning commission received the letter on March 14th.

Pamela Berlew - The planning commission cannot change the zoning officer decision.

There was other discussions on maybe the zoning hearing board and through their legal guidance to see what their options are at this point.

Dr Jeffrey Wack - He mentioned about Lower Macungie and their points are with the developments of warehousing in the region and it started in 2016. He also discussed the LV planning commission meeting concerns of warehousing and traffic. Within the township maybe further looking into definitions of what can be placed in certain zones for example the light industrial. This area may lose the quality of life in that part of the township.

Motion to adjourn made by Wilhelmina Donnelly and seconded by Jay Benfield.
The ayes have it 5 - 0.

Meeting adjourned at 1937