

Chapter 16

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HAINES AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE PENNS VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

The Board of Supervisors of Haines Township hereby adopts an ordinance establishing the Penns Valley Regional Planning Commission as follows:

Section 16-1. Creation, Membership, and Terms

Haines Township hereby joins with the municipalities of Centre Hall Borough, Gregg Township, Miles Township, Millheim Borough, Penn Township, and Potter Township to create the Penns Valley Regional Planning Commission as per the guidelines set forth under Article XI of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Fifteenth Edition of Act 247 as amended January 2001. Each participating municipality shall appoint two members. The term of each member shall be two years.

Section 16-2. Purpose

The seven municipalities of the Penns Valley Area have come to recognize that the issues associated with growth and development, such as, but not limited to, traffic congestion, air and water pollution, and loss of open space, are too large for any one municipality to deal with. They further recognize that current growth, and anticipated growth, if not properly managed will lead to the diminution of the region's quality of life. They are concerned that current-zoning requirements which call for each and every municipality to provide for a full range of uses, regardless of historic development patterns, is inefficient and potentially destructive to the region's economic and social structure.

To this end, the seven municipalities of the Penns Valley Area hereby embark on a course of action to implement multi-municipal planning. Haines Township empowers the Penns Valley Regional Planning Commission to undertake the development of a Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan that shall encompass the seven municipalities of the Penns Valley Area.

Section 16-3. Powers and Duties

The Penns Valley Regional Planning Commission shall have the responsibility to prepare a Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan for the seven participating municipalities of the Penns Valley Area. To this end, the powers and duties of the Commission are as follows:

- A. To prepare a Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan pursuant to Article XI of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.
- B. That in the preparation of the Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan, the members of the Commission shall represent the interest of their respective

municipalities, and may cast one vote per municipality on all matters that require action.

- C. The recommendation of the Commission shall be advisory only.
- D. The municipalities may extend the power and duties of the Regional Planning Commission by resolution of all participating municipalities.
- E. The Commission shall be guided by the By-Laws of the Penns Valley Regional Planning Commission "Attachment #1."

Section 16-4. Withdrawal

Any participating municipality may withdraw from the Penns Valley Regional Planning Commission after six months formal notice. Formal notice must be submitted in writing with the consent of the respective governing body authorizing withdrawal from the Regional Planning Commission. Upon receiving notice that a municipality wishes to withdraw from the Regional Planning Commission, the governing bodies of the remaining municipalities shall promptly schedule a meeting to consider whether the remaining municipalities wish to continue with the Regional Planning Commission. Municipalities who choose to withdraw shall still be responsible for their share of costs for the six (6) month formal notice period.

Section 16-5. Dispute Resolution

In instances where a dispute arises between two or more municipalities as to the contents of the multi-municipal comprehensive plan or the interpretation of this ordinance, the Regional Planning Commission may retain the services of the Centre County Planning Office or any other organization that specializes in mediation. The parties involved in the dispute shall be responsible for any costs incurred for mediation.

Section 16-6. Severability

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable and if any section, sentence, clause, part or provision hereof shall be held illegal, invalid, or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision of the court shall not affect or impair the remaining sections, sentences, clauses, parts or provisions of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to be the intent of this Board that this Ordinance would have still been adopted even if such illegal, invalid or unconstitutional section, sentence, clause, part or provision had not been included herein.

Section 16-7. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall be effective five (5) days after its enactment by all the participating municipalities.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Supervisors of Haines Township, Centre County, Pennsylvania, this _____ day of _____, 2003.

Township of Haines, Centre County, Pennsylvania

By: _____
Chairman of the Haines Township Board of Supervisors

Attest: _____
Secretary/Treasurer of Haines Township

Certification:

I, Susan E. Wenrick, Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Supervisors of Haines Township, certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an ordinance duly adopted at a meeting of the Haines Township Board of Supervisors held on November 19th, 2003.

Susan E. Wenrick, Haines Township Secretary/Treasurer