

Chapter 15

PLANNING COMMISSION

§ 15-1. **Organization.**

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[HISTORY: Adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Haines 8-13-1992 by Ord. No. 26. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Building construction — See Ch. 35.

§ 15-1. **Organization.**

The Board of Supervisors of Haines Township, hereinafter referred to as “the governing body” hereby signifies its intention and desire to organize a Planning Commission under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act 247 of July 31, 1968, reenacted and amended by Act 170 of December 21, 1988, P.L. 1329. (MPC).¹

§ 15-2. **Membership; terms of office.**

- A. The Planning Commission shall consist of five members, all of whom shall be citizens of the Haines Township of Centre County.
- B. The terms of office of the members shall be four years or until a successor is appointed, except that the terms of the members first appointed shall be so fixed that no more than two shall be reappointed during any future calendar year.
- C. Elected or appointed officers or employees of the township may serve on the Planning Commission. However, at least three members of the Commission shall be citizen members.

§ 15-3. **Initial appointments.**

The names, addresses and terms of office of the initial members of the Planning Commission are as follows:²

¹ Editor’s Note: See 53 P.S. § 10101 et seq.

² Editor’s Note: The names of the original members of the Planning Commission are on file in the township offices.

§ 15-4. Powers and duties.

- A. The Planning Commission shall, at the request of the governing body, have the power and shall be required to:
- (1) Prepare the Comprehensive Plan for the development of the township as set forth in the Municipalities Planning Code and present it for the consideration of the governing body.
 - (2) Maintain and keep on file records of its actions. All records and files of the Planning Commission shall be in the possession to the governing body.
- B. The Planning Commission, at the request of the governing body, may:
- (1) Make recommendations to the governing body concerning the adoption or amendment of an official map.
 - (2) Prepare and present to the governing body of the township a Zoning Ordinance and make recommendations to the governing body on a proposed amendment to it.
 - (3) Prepare, recommend and administer subdivision and land development and planned residential development regulations.
 - (4) Prepare and present to the governing body of the township a Building Code and a Housing Code and make recommendations concerning proposed amendments thereto.
 - (5) Do such other acts or make studies as may be necessary to fulfill the duties and obligations imposed by the Municipalities Planning Code.
 - (6) Prepare and present to the governing body of the township an environmental study.
 - (7) Submit to the governing body of the township a recommended capital improvements program.
 - (8) Prepare and present to the governing body of the township a water survey, which shall be consistent with the State Water Plan and any applicable water resources plan adopted by a river basin commission. The water survey shall be conducted in consultation with any public water supplier in the area to be surveyed.
 - (9) Promote public interest in and understanding of the Comprehensive Plan and planning.
 - (10) Make recommendations to governmental, civic and private agencies and individuals as to the effectiveness of the proposals of such agencies and individuals.
 - (11) Hold public hearings and meetings.
 - (12) Present testimony before any board.
 - (13) Require from other departments and agencies of the township such available information as relates to the work of the planning agency.
 - (14) In the performance of its functions, enter upon any land to make examinations and land surveys with the consent of the owner.

- (15) Prepare and present to the governing body a study regarding the feasibility and practicability of using renewable energy sources in specific areas within the township.
- (16) Review the Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Official Map, provisions for planned residential development and such other ordinances and regulations governing the development of land no less frequently than it reviews the Comprehensive Plan.
- (17) Send a member to participate in the annual field survey of township roads and bridges.
- (18) Review the twelve-year highway plan and recommend projects to the governing body.

§ 15-5. Acceptance and utilization of resources.

The Planning Commission may, with the consent of the governing body, accept and utilize any funds, personnel or other assistance made available by the county, the commonwealth or the federal government, or any of their agencies, or from private sources. The governing body may enter into agreements or contracts regarding the acceptance or utilization of the funds or assistance in accordance with the governmental procedure of the township.