DOVER TOWNSHIP
INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
AUGUST 24, 2016

The Dover Township Industrial Commercial Development Committee (I/CDC) meeting for August 24, 2016, was brought to order at 4:00 PM by Chairman Shane Patterson in the Meeting Room of the Dover Township Municipal Building. Committee members present were Ashley Spangler, Senior, Michael Curley, Kim Hogeman, Kathy Herman and Brian Caden. Peggy Bishop, John Popovich and Kathy Herman were present. Michael Cashman, Charles Benton and Ashley Spangler, Junior were absent. Township Representatives in attendance were Laurel Oswalt, Township Manager; Stephen Parthree, Township Supervisor; Georgia Sprenkel, Township Zoning Officer and Tiffany Strine, Recording Secretary. This meeting has been recorded for minute purposes only.

APPROVAL OF THE JULY 27, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

A correction was suggested by M. Curley; on page two, under the Other Business section, sentence one, to insert the word “an”, of the proposed meeting minutes for July 27, 2016.

Motion by K. Hogeman and seconded by M. Curley to approve the JULY 27, 2016, I/CDC meeting minutes with the suggested correction, as presented. Passed with 6 ayes

PUBLIC COMMENT
None to note.

UPDATE OF FIBER OPTIC LINE

The committee was presented with a map depicting the United Fiber and Data’s fully owned and operated network. The map outlined the proposed areas in which United Fiber and Data’s lines that are proposed along Interstate 95 are planned to bypass major city corridors, city centers and provides the lowest latency possible. The committee was provided with updates regarding the Man-Tech corporation and United Fiber and Data’s plans to bring high speed fiber optic line from New York to West Virginia. It was suggested that businesses and municipalities are aware of the possibilities and to be prepared to access the utilities.

United Fiber and Data’s creating new sources and lines pertaining to internet services that will revitalize economics for business fiber optics by means of implementing high-speed internet access to the area. This particular internet access is said to possess four to five times faster internet speeds than what is currently offered in the area.

M. Curley stated that he reached out to the Pennsylvania Legislature with an inquiry regarding this topic and he provided the committee with an overview of his findings. M. Curley proposed the following question to the Pennsylvania Legislature. Is there Pennsylvania legislation that
prevents municipalities from offering their own cable/fiber optic broadband service (e.g. by building/owning/maintaining the service)?

M. Curley stated that the answer to his question was Yes, with two exceptions. M. Curley provided history on the 2003 House Bill 30 that was introduced by Representative Adolf to rewrite Chapter 30 (Alternative Form of Regulation for Telecommunication Services) in Title 66 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes.

The two exceptions currently that M. Curley noted were:

1. Section 3013, under the section pertaining to prohibition against political subdivision advanced and broadband services deployment: Except as otherwise provided for under paragraph (2), a political subdivision or any entity established by a political subdivision may not provide to the public for compensation any telecommunication services, including advanced and broadband services, within the service territory of a local exchange telecommunications company operating under a network modernization plan.

2. A political subdivision may offer advanced or broadband services if the political subdivision has submitted a written request for the deployment of such services to the local exchange telecommunications company servicing the area and, within two months of receipt of the request, the local exchange telecommunications company or one of its affiliates has not agreed to provide the data speeds requested. If the local exchange telecommunications company or one of its affiliates agrees to provide the data speeds requested, then it must do so within fourteen months of receipt of the request.

Manager Oswalt stated that this matter would only pertain if Dover Township would choose to get involved with offering internet services. Manager Oswalt added that the real issue is whether or not the Township can entice others to come to the Township and how the Township goes about doing so. Manager Oswalt stated that she will be reaching out to Attorney Cohen regarding YCEA and YCEA expressing interest in having a feasibility study done to determine the costs and benefits in pursuing an outside data provider to run fiber optic within York County, thereby creating competition and reducing the cost of the service. Manager Oswalt will be holding a meeting with Comcast regarding fiber optic in Dover Township and will provide the committee with updates following the meeting.

PA MEDIA GROUP SERVICES

The committee was provided with information obtained regarding the PA Media Group and their services that they offer. It was upon C. Benton’s recommendations to reach out to the PA Media Group for furthered efforts in tangent with business outreach. The PA Media Group offers comprehensive advertising solutions for companies large and small through distinguished brands Penn Live and The Patriot-News. The PA Media Group is digitally-focused, from delivering the news to help its clients advertise. The Group constantly monitors data and uses the best practices to provide the best services for their readers and their advertisers with many advertising solutions.
Manager Oswalt reached out to the Group and received a document to review from Penn Live with regards to methods of marketing that could be undertaken by the Group. The York County Economic Alliance indicated that they can also provide similar services at a reduced cost from Penn Live. Manager Oswalt added that she is awaiting hard materials from Penn Live. Upon receipt of the material, Manager Oswalt will provide the committee with an update for further review and discussion.

OTHER BUSINESS

The committee discussed methods and possibilities in which the Township can further beautify and attract others to the Township. Discussion evolved obtaining grant funding to update the Township business corridor from the Township line to the Borough as a starting point for improving the look of the community as a whole. In order to determine what forms of initiatives business owners would embrace, the committee will be creating a survey for business owners to complete. The types of improvements and enhancements may include sidewalks and curbs, lighting, plantings, banners, way finding signs and so on. Once input is received and summarized, the Township will attempt to obtain grant funding to aid with the programs.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM by Chairman Shane Patterson.

Respectfully submitted by: ______________________________

Tiffany Strine, Recording Secretary