

**DOVER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
WORK SESSION
MINUTES
OCTOBER 22ND, 2018**

The Dover Township Board of Supervisors' Work Session Meeting for Monday, October 22nd, 2018, was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairperson Stephen Stefanowicz in the Meeting Room of the Dover Township Municipal Building. Supervisors present were Stephen Parthree Charles Richards and Michael Cashman. Supervisor Robert Stone was absent with prior notice. Laurel Oswalt, Township Manager, Charles Rausch; Township Solicitor, Tiffany Strine; Township Secretary, and Mackenzie Adams; Township Billing Clerk were present. There were no citizens present. This meeting is being recorded for the purpose of minutes only.

This work session is being held for the purposes of discussing Aerial Fire Lanterns

Manager Oswalt stated this work session is being held to discuss the use of aerial fire lanterns within Dover Township. Concerned citizens have approached the Dover Township Board of Supervisors, questioning the safety regarding the use of aerial fire lanterns within Dover Township and possibly banning the use of aerial fire lanterns within Dover Township.

The Dover Township Board of Supervisors and Township Solicitor; Attorney Charles Rausch, looked into the concerns of residents. Attorney Rausch has researched and reviewed whether Dover Township can ban the use of aerial luminaries such as sky lanterns within the Township due to public safety issues. Attorney Rausch did not find any prohibition to banning aerial luminaries. Attorney Rausch noted that his research did not indicate any bills banning aerial sky lanterns have been introduced in the General Assembly. It was noted that the use of aerial fire lanterns has been banned in twenty-nine (29) states since the year 2016.

Attorney Rausch provided the Board of Supervisors with a sample ordinance in which municipalities have imposed banning the use of sky lanterns and helium balloons. The sample ordinance only prohibit untethered sky lanterns.

C. Richards suggested Dover Township pursue implementing an ordinance banning the use of sky lanterns that are untethered.

S. Parthree proposed the issue of littering as a result of the use of an aerial fire lantern. It was noted that some aerial fire lanterns are usually made with biodegradable material; however, it is unknown if all aerial fire lanterns are made of biodegradable material.

Manager Oswalt added that considering an aerial fire lantern is made from biodegradable material, there is still a time-frame needed in which an aerial fire lantern will need to biodegrade. There may still be risks posed to properties including homes and livestock until such action would occur and the material would biodegrade

M. Cashman noted that a ban of aerial fire lanterns in Dover Township would not prohibit a sky lantern being utilized in a surrounding municipality from traveling into Dover Township and

possibly causing harm.

Upon further discussion, it was noted that the Dover Township Board of Supervisors should possibly approach our state legislator with concerns regarding the issues of the use of aerial fire lanterns in local communities.

Board consensus was reached and it was collectively determined to have S. Stefanowicz, S. Parthree and C. Richards reach out to Pennsylvania State Representative Seth Grove and voice Dover Townships' concerns regarding the use of Aerial Fire Lanterns in local communities.

With no further business, the Work Session meeting was adjourned by Chairman Stefanowicz at 6:30 PM and the Board of Supervisors then entered into an Executive Session on personnel matters and a potential acquisition of real estate.

Respectfully submitted by: _____
Tiffany Strine, Recording Township Secretary