

The work session of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:46 p.m.

Members of the Board present were:

Barry Moore
Larry Weinstein
Dr. Kimberly Rose

Members of the Board absent were:

George F. Komelasky
Eileen Silver

Others present were:

Robert M. Pellegrino, Township Manager
Joseph Pizzo, Township Solicitor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Weinstein led the Pledge of Allegiance and held a moment of silence in support of military and emergency services personnel.

Chairman Weinstein explained this is a special meeting for discussion purposes only on the Noise and ATV Ordinance and that no other items will be heard. This is intended to give the public more information and a chance to discuss the pros and cons of the ordinance in an open forum.

Chairman Weinstein introduced Chief Michael Clark and Sergeant Steve Kingsdorf of the Northampton Township Police Department. Chief Clark and Sergeant Kingsdorf provided input on the ordinance and responded to resident's questions. Sergeant Kingsdorf explained the overall objective of the ordinance is to have a simple yet enforceable mechanism to deal with nuisance complaints regarding noise and ATVs on private property. Chief Clark stated currently the noise ordinance is complicated; dealing with decibel levels, and is difficult to enforce.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Bradley, 140 Drew Drive, stated he lives in the Creekwood Estates and is in favor of the ordinance.

Cheryl Havers, 40 Gelder Drive, opposes the ordinance because it lacks clarification on how sound and hours will be measured.

Vivian Braubitz, 31 E. Elizabeth Lane, favors of the ordinance, stating the loud noise coming from the Northampton Swim Club as an example. She added that she is unable to entertain in her backyard and is awoken by the sound of loud speakers and music starting as early as 7:00 am on Sunday mornings and going until 7:00 or 8:00 pm.

Jim McKnight, 35 Deborah Road, agreed with Ms. Braubitz, adding that the windows in his home shake because of the noise coming from the Northampton Swim Club.

There was some discussion on the hours included in the ordinance.

Sergeant Kingsdorf explained that developments adjacent to shopping centers need to be taken into consideration. The Police Department will have a difficult time asking trash companies to stop collecting trash at 4 a.m. without an ordinance in place to enforce a time constraint.

Rebecca Cary, 47 Forrest Drive, is in favor of the ordinance because her neighbor has a wind chime that affects her quality of life.

Tom Gaudet, 39 Aspen Drive, opposes the ordinance because it needs to include decibel levels as an enforcement method but agrees with the hours included.

Timothy Vickrey, 124 Spring Garden Mill Drive, opposes the ordinance because it is too subjective, and he is concerned with the restrictions on running and idling an engine.

Paul Ricelli, 23 E. Elizabeth Lane, favors the ordinance due to the Richboro Swim Club but believes a decibel level should be included.

Nicholas Barrand, 1960 Powderhorn Court, opposes the ordinance because of a lack of decibel levels and the distance from a property's right of way.

Thomas Yaegel, 31 Jasons Way, opposes the ordinance, stating it's vague and that recreational services should be exempt.

Tony Patty, 485 Middle Holland Road, opposes the ordinance, stating it's vague and subjective and should exempt venues such as sporting event, schools, clubs, and non-residential properties.

Chairman Weinstein reviewed the ordinance and summarized residential concerns. There was a lengthy informal question and answer session that followed Chairman Weinstein's comments.

Chairman Weinstein thanked everyone for their input and feedback and stated all items will be addressed for possible consideration at the July 27, 2016 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Silver, Secretary