

WEST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP
CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO. 2008-02

AN ORDINANCE OF WEST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP, CHESTER COUNTY, AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL TO ADVISE LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, PLANNING COMMISSION, PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION ON MATTERS DEALING WITH THE PROTECTION, CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT, PROMOTION, ACQUISITION AND USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, INCLUDING AIR, LAND, WATER AND OPEN SPACE RESOURCES LOCATED WITHIN OR AFFECTING WEST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP

I. Establishment.

An Environmental Advisory Council is hereby established for West Pikeland Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania and shall continue to function until this chapter is revoked.

II. Purpose of the Environmental Advisory Council.

The purpose of the Environmental Advisory Council shall be to advise local governmental agencies including, but not limited to, the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Park and Recreation Commission on matters dealing with the protection, conservation, management, promotion, acquisition and use of natural resources, including air, land, water and open space resources located within or affecting West Pikeland Township.

III. Membership.

The Environmental Advisory Council shall be composed of between five (5) and seven (7) residents of West Pikeland Township who shall be appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

The Board of Supervisors shall fill all vacancies.

Whenever possible, one member shall be a member of the West Pikeland Township Planning Commission and one Member shall be a member of the West Pikeland Township Open Space Advisory Committee and/or Subcommittee.

Members shall be from as many different regions of the Township as possible.

IV. Terms of Office.

Members of the Environmental Advisory Council (henceforth "Council") shall serve for a term of three (3) years except that the initial appointments shall be so staggered that approximately one-third of the membership shall expire each year, and the terms of their successors shall be three (3) years each.

Example of terms~

A. If the initial Council consists of three members, then the terms of members shall expire on December 31, 2009, December 2010, and December 31, 2011, respectively.

B. If the initial Council consists of five members, then the terms of two members shall expire on December 31, 2009, two members on December 31, 2010, and one member on December 31, 2011.

C. If the initial Council consists of seven members, then the terms of three members shall expire on December 31, 2009, two members on December 31, 2010, and two members on December 31, 2011.

Members may resign at any time with written notice to the Board of Supervisors.

Members may be removed by the Board of Supervisors, with or without the recommendation of a majority of the other Council members, for malfeasance or neglect in the performance of their duties. Failure to attend either three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings or four regularly scheduled meetings during a 12-month period shall constitute neglect.

The Board of Supervisors shall appoint successors to members who resign or are removed to serve for the remaining term of the member or members.

V. Compensation.

Members of the Council shall receive no compensation for their services, but they may be reimbursed for expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in the performance of their duties, provided that the expenses have the prior approval of the Board of Supervisors and/or the Township Manager.

VI. Coordination with other Boards and Commissions.

The Environmental Advisory Council shall be advisory to and shall coordinate its activities with the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Historical Commission, Park and Recreation, Open Space Advisory Committee and any other such Township agencies, committees or boards.

VII. Powers of the Environmental Advisory Council.

The Environmental Advisory Council shall have the following specific powers:

A. To identify environmental problems and recommend plans and programs to the Board of Supervisors for the promotion and conservation of natural resources and for the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment within West Pikeland Township.

B. Subject to the Planning Commission's and Park and Recreation Commission's duties regarding parks and open space, to make recommendations as to the possible use of open land areas owned by West Pikeland Township.

C. To promote a community environmental program.

D. To periodically review such Township's indices of open space and environmentally sensitive areas, as may be contained in its Comprehensive Plan and or Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resource Plan or other planning documents, including lands publicly or privately owned, and including but not limited to flood-prone areas, swamps, watercourses, woods, ridges and slopes and other unique natural areas, for the purpose of obtaining, updating and providing information on the proper use and regulation of such areas and making recommendations to the agencies identified in Article VI .

F. To perform any other duties assigned to it by the Board of Supervisors, but not to exercise any powers or perform any duties which by law are conferred or imposed upon a State agency.

VIII. Organization and Meetings.

The chairman of the Council shall be designated by the Board of Supervisors as such and shall continue to serve as chairman throughout his or her term unless the Board of Supervisors shall, at any annual reorganizational meeting, designate a different chairman.

The Council may select its own vice-chairman and secretary.

The Council shall meet at least monthly and at other times as directed by the Board of Supervisors. Said meetings shall be advertised and open to the public.

The Council shall keep written records of its meetings and activities and shall make an annual report to the Board of Supervisors which shall be printed in the annual municipal report or, if none, be made known and available to the public.

IX. Records.

The Environmental Advisory Council shall keep records of its meetings and activities and shall submit an annual report to the Board of Supervisors each March for the previous year. Minutes of each meeting shall be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors. Minutes also will be posted on the Township's website.

X. Appropriations.

The Board of Supervisors may appropriate funds for the expenses incurred by the Environmental Advisory Council in accordance with an annual budget. Appropriations may be expended for such administrative, clerical, printing and legal services as may from time to time be required and approved by the Board of Supervisors and shall be within the limits of the annual budget. The whole or any part of any funds so appropriated in any year may with the approval of the Board of Supervisors, be placed in a conservation fund and allowed to accumulate from year to year or be expended in any year.

Duly enacted on the ____ day of _____, 2008.

WEST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Attest:
