

MARCH 19, 2014  
WAYNESBORO, PA 17268  
PUBLIC INPUT SESSION RE: PROPOSED  
RESIDENTIAL LIFE SAFETY ORDINANCE

Council President Wayne Driscoll called the public input session of the Waynesboro Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m., with the following in attendance:

Borough Council Members – Benjamin Greenawalt, Delmos Oldham, Darrel Potts, Wayne Driscoll, C. Harold Mumma and Michael Cermak

Mayor Richard Starliper

Borough Staff – Lloyd R. Hamberger, II, Borough Manager  
Denny Benschhoff, Maintenance Superintendent  
Dan Sheffler, Zoning-Code Enforcement Officer  
Kevin Grubbs, Head of Engineering Services  
Jason Stains, Assistant Borough Manager  
Jim Sourbier, Police Chief  
Shawn Adolini, Fire Chief

President Driscoll noted the purpose of the meeting was to receive input from the public on the proposed Residential Life Safety Ordinance. Members of the public wishing to give input were given one (1) five-minute block of time to present their opinions to Borough Council. It was noted that Council would not comment nor engage in discussion regarding pros and cons of the proposed ordinance, but they would take the public's comments into consideration after presentation. Those individuals presenting comments were asked to stand at the lectern, state their name and address (and any organization they may be representing) and sign the attendance sheet for the written record.

Mr. Hamberger noted that the meeting was duly advertised in *The Record Herald*, and the proposed ordinance was available on the Borough's website and front lobby for the public's view. He added that Council's regular meeting would begin, after a brief recess, following the public input session.

Darwyn Benedict, 47 W. Main Street - Mr. Benedict noted that he has reviewed the draft of the proposed ordinance, and offered the following items of concern –

- Page 4, Section 102B, notes that “this ordinance shall not apply to the following: hospital, or other similar facility; travel trailers and or motor homes in an approved travel trailer or motor home park; owner-occupied dwelling units that do not share a common wall with a rental unit”. He suggested adding “anything newer than 10 years”, as they would have just

- gone through a thorough inspection process when their home was built.
- Page 6, Section 104A, first paragraph, refers to the International Property Management Code (IPMC) as adopted and amended. The second paragraph should be removed.
- Page 7, Section 105A, notes that “permits expire automatically five (5) years after being initially issued”. He feels that a ten (10) year cycle would be better.
- Page 13, Section 108, reviews the complaint process for tenants. He feels there should also be a section for the complaint process for landlords.
- Page 15, Section 109E, refers to violation classes of red, green and yellow. Those classes have been removed from the remainder of the ordinance and it was probably the intent to remove them from this section also.
- Page 16, Section 110A, refers to when owners should file requisite applications. As this is such a large endeavor, he feels it should be “stepped in by voting districts” so everyone isn’t affected at once.
- He still feels that a “livability code” should be considered, more so than this draft, because people need to have rights for their properties.

Paul McCarney, 439 W. Fifth Street - Mr. McCarney noted that Council is aware of how he feels about the proposed ordinance, even though it is now being referred to as a new name. He noted that the proposed electrical inspections will consist of inspecting the panel boxes, but most electrical fires occur in the ceilings, walls, etc. He reminded Council members that they were elected by the public to serve and speak for the public ... and he feels the people who disagree with this ordinance far outnumber the people in favor of it.

Donald Minnich - Mr. Minnich noted he agrees with Mr. McCarney. He doesn’t feel the ordinance is necessary; and that it is meant to protect the tenants, but the landlords need protection also.

Hearing no further comments from the public, the input session adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melinda S. Knott  
Administrative Assistant