

**Planning Commission of the Borough of Matamoras
Meeting Minutes of July 15, 2025**

Call to Order, Salute to the flag and Roll Call @ 7:00 pm.

Mr. Eddie Addison Chairman	P	Mr. Bob Howard	P	Mr. Nick McIntyre Solicitor	p
Mr. Dave Oszcepinski Vice Chair	P	Mrs. Kelli Johnson	P	Mr. Shawn Bolles Zoning Officer	A
Mr. Rich Anderson	P	Mr. Troy Sayles	P	Ms. Pam Conklin (Alternate)	P
Mr. Danny Fernandez	P				

Note: The May 20, 2025, and June 17, 2025, meetings were cancelled. The Planning Secretary, Marianne Brown, was not present for this meeting. A partial recording was provided to the Secretary to prepare these minutes. A motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 15, 2025, was made by Mr. Dave Oszcepinski and seconded by Mr. Bob Howard. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Dimitry Roby 105 Pennsylvania Ave commented on the sign ordinance and the unsightly appearance of signs in the borough. Asked the Chairman what he intends to do about it. Chairman Addison suggested that he bring specific concerns about individual businesses to the attention of the Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer.

Old Business:

- a) Borough Ordinance Review- Ongoing –Chairman Addison requested that Commission Members come to the next meeting with an ordinance chapter they are willing to review and present for possible updates.
- b) Joint Comprehensive Plan Discussion – no update
- c) Discussion ensued on permitting chickens and other small fowl within borough limits. Mr. Anderson asked Mr. Sayles to summarize key points on the issue. Mr. Troy stated that when this was presented, it was a simple petition from a handful of residents that were in support of allowing chickens in the borough. Previous discussions focused only on negative aspects. He feels that the benefits of allowing chickens and small fowl should also be discussed to show that due diligence was taken in this matter. He explained that he would never own chickens due to the work involved, but others might have different interests. Based on research from other boroughs, he recommended the following: exclude roosters due to noise and safety concerns, prohibiting free-range chickens, banning slaughtering on-site, and imposing flock size limit. He suggested that chicken waste could be used as fertilizer by residents. Chairman Addison noted that even if the Borough allows chickens, the DEP still requires a permit for proper waste disposal. The possibility of residents selling eggs was noted. Mr. Sayles asked his fellow Commission Members to review the e-mail and links he sent everyone and asked them to review this with an open mind. Ms. Johnson pointed out that the code limits the number of animals permitted and this may need to be amended. Mr. McIntyre, reminded members to be mindful of Pennsylvania's Sunshine Act, cautioning against discussing policy issues in group emails outside of public meetings.

New Business:

- a) Sign Regulation Review (§124-17): Chairman Addison reported that a business owner whose property borders two streets wants to display more than one sign. The owner, who was available to attend the cancelled May and June meetings, could not attend this evening. Chairman Addison tabled the matter until the business owner can be present.
- b) Proposed Shade Tree ordinance was returned to the Planning Commission because the Borough Council did not support cost-sharing between homeowners and the Borough for tree removal or replacement in the right-of-way. The onus should be on the Borough. Discussion ensued.
The recording ended at this point. However a motion was made by Mr. Oszcepinski, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to amend §25-10 and related sections to remove the requirement for costs payable by property owners. The motion carried.

Public Comment: Mr. Roby made additional commentary (details not captured due to the recording ending).

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Marianne Brown, Planning Secretary