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**ORDINANCE NO. 1507-2**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, CREATING AN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL, ESTABLISHING THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS, MANNER OF APPOINTMENT, TERMS OF OFFICE, POWERS AND DUTIES AND MANNER OF MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EXPENSES OF SAID COUNCIL.**

WHEREAS, the Township of Scott is desirous of creating an Environmental Advisory Council for the purpose of assisting the Board of Commissioners in matters involving land development, open spaces, and recreation areas, and is desirous of adopting an Ordinance for these purposes, and

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained and it is hereby ordained as follows:

**SECTION 1. Council Created; Purposes and General Powers.** There is hereby created an Environmental Advisory Council of the Township of Scott, which Council shall advise and assist other Township agencies including, but not limited to, the Planning Commission, Recreation Boards, and all of its elected officials on matters dealing with protection, conservation, management, promotion and use of natural resources, including air, land and water resources, and all land, water or air development, management and planning within the territorial limits of the Township of Scott.

**SECTION 2. Membership; Term of Office; Expenses.** The Environmental Advisory Council shall be composed of seven (7) members of the Township of Scott, each of whom shall be appointed by the Commissioners of the Township of Scott and each of whom shall serve for a term of three (3) years, except that three (3) of the original members appointed under the terms of this Ordinance shall serve until the first Monday of January of 2003, three (3) such members shall serve until the first Monday of January of 2004, and the remaining one (1) member shall serve until the first Monday of January of 2005. The members of the Environmental Advisory Council shall receive no compensation for their services but may be reimbursed for expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in the performance of their duties. The Board of Commissioners of the Township of Scott shall designate the Chairman of the Environmental Advisory Council from year to year. Any vacancy which may occur in the membership of the Environmental Advisory Council shall be filled by the Commissioners of the Township of Scott.

**SECTION 3. Specific Powers.** The Environmental Advisory Council hereby created shall have the following powers, and may from time to time adopt regulations pursuant to the provisions of this Ordinance and in furtherance of the administration of the Environmental Advisory Council, but no regulation shall be effective unless the same shall have been submitted to and approved by the Commissioners of the Township of Scott, nor shall any regulation be effective which shall confer or impose upon the Environmental Advisory Council

any powers or authorize the performance of any duties which are now or which may hereafter be conferred or imposed upon a Commonwealth or federal agency.

The Environmental Advisory Council may:

- A. Identify environmental problems and recommend plans and programs to the appropriate Township agencies for the promotion and conservation of the natural resources and for the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment within the Township of Scott.
- B. Make recommendations as to the possible use of open land areas within the Township of Scott.
- C. Promote a community environmental program.
- D. Keep an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including, but not limited to, flood-prone areas, swamps, and other unique natural areas, for the purpose of obtaining information on the proper use of such areas.
- E. Advise the appropriate Township agencies including, but not limited to, the Scott Township Planning Commission, the Scott Township Recreation Commission, the Township Commissioners, and all other bodies of organizations within the Township limits regarding the acquisition of property, both real and personal, by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, assessment, devise or lease on all matters dealing with the purposes of this Ordinance.
- F. Update and otherwise define and re-define the Scott Township Flood Control Plan and keep abreast of technical literature, reports and documents relevant to the protection of natural resources in the Township.
- G. Maintain liaison with appropriate municipal, State or Federal departments or agencies concerned with the quality of life and the protection of the environment and to transmit such information to the appropriate agencies of the Township.
- H. Work with Township agencies, and, in particular, with the Planning Commission and the Recreation Commission of the Township, to establish a plan for the management, use and development of open space and recreation areas within the Township of Scott and, to the greatest extent practicable, utilize any assistance made available to Environmental Resources in the form of educational services, exchange resources planning assistance, and the co-ordination of State and Township conservation and planning activities.

**SECTION 4. Records of Meetings; Annual Report.** The Environmental Council shall keep records of its meetings and activities and shall make an annual report of the same to the Township Commissioners.

**SECTION 5. APPROPRIATIONS.** The Commissioners of the Township of Scott may appropriate funds for the expenses incurred by the Environmental Advisory Council subject to a request from the Environmental Advisory Council and following the submission by the Environmental Advisory Council of a proposed budget for each succeeding year, which budget shall be submitted by the Environmental Advisory Council prior to December 1<sup>st</sup> of the year

preceding the year for which the proposed budget is submitted. Items to be considered in the preparation of such budget are clerical, printing and legal services; the Environmental Advisory Council shall be limited to all or any part of the funds so budgeted and appropriated by the Township Commissioners for use by the Environmental Advisory Council in any year, and if they are not expended, they maybe allowed to accumulate from year to year or be expended in their entirety in any one (1) year.

SECTION 6. Acquisition of Land. In conjunction with and in furtherance of its duties and powers set forth herein, particularly with regard to the indexing of and making of recommendations as to the use of open land areas and advice to the Township Commissioners and other agencies of the Township with regard to the acquisition of property, the Environmental Advisory Council shall designate areas within the Township of Scott which might be suitable for future public acquisition where, in the opinion of the Environmental Advisory Council acting in conjunction with and upon the advice of the Scott Township Recreation Commission, such land is required for proposed parks, nature preserves, and other open spaces. The Scott Township Commissioners shall take such action as it deems appropriate regarding the subject land is necessary to protect or improve environmental values including ecological balances, to protect existing visual and recreational values, to preserve existing open spaces, or to minimize potential damages from landslides, floods, or other natural disasters. The designation of acquisition in accordance with the provisions of this Section shall not, absent approval of the acquisition of the land so designated by the Commissioners, be deemed in and of itself, to constitute a taking or acceptance of any land by the Township of Scott or a reservation of the said area for future taking or acquisition for public use, nor shall any such designation constitute anything other than a recommendation based upon appropriate studies for the limited purposes stated herein.

SECTION 7. Any ordinance or parts of any ordinance conflicting with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as they affect this ordinance.

ORDAINED and ENACTED this 28th day of May, 2002.




  
Township Manager/Secretary

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTT

  
President, Board of Commissioners

APPROVED TO AS TO FORM:

  
Township Solicitor  
LIT:248268-1 010983-104264