

609 Zoning Hearing Board

609.1 Jurisdiction

The Township Board of Supervisors shall appoint a Zoning Hearing Board, which shall have the number of members of such powers and authority as set forth in Article IX of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code as enacted or hereafter amended. The Zoning Hearing Board shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and render final adjudications in the following matters:

A. Substantive challenges to the validity of any land use ordinance, except those brought before the governing body pursuant to sections 609.1 (Curative Amendments) and 916.1(a) (2) (Ordinance Validity) of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

B. Challenges to the validity of a land use ordinance raising procedural questions or alleged defects in the process of enactment or adoption which challenges shall be raised by an appeal taken within 30 days after the effective date of said ordinance. Where the ordinance appealed from is the initial zoning ordinance of the municipality and a zoning hearing board has not been previously established, the appeal raising procedural questions shall be taken directly to court.

C. Appeals from the determination of the Zoning Officer, including, but not limited to, the granting or denial of any permit, or failure to act on the application therefor, the issuance of any cease and desist order or the registration or refusal to register any nonconforming use, structure or lot.

D. Applications for variances from the terms of the Zoning Ordinance pursuant to Section 910.2 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

E. Reserved.

F. Appeals from the Zoning Officer's determination under Section 916.2 (Preliminary Opinion) of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

G. Appeals from the determination of the Zoning Officer or municipal engineer in the administration of any land use ordinance or provision thereof with reference to sedimentation and erosion control and storm water management insofar as the same relate to development not involving Subdivision and Land Development applications.

The Zoning Hearing Board shall not, under any circumstances, have the authority to order any specific change in or amendment to the Zoning Map or to allow any use of property substantially different from those permitted under the Schedule of Use Regulations for the particular district.

In all its actions, the Zoning Hearing Board shall follow procedures as provided in the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.