

## ARTICLE 146

### Environmental Advisory Council

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#### CROSS REFERENCES

PA Act 148 – 1973 – gave municipalities the authority to establish Environmental Advisory Councils (EAC)

PA Act 177 – 1996 – P.L. 1158, No. 177 – amended Act 148

By-laws adopted December 5, 2007

#### 146.01 ESTABLISHMENT.

An advisory council to be known as the City of Bethlehem Environmental Advisory Council is hereby created.

(Ord. 2010-12. Passed 5/19/10.)

#### 146.02 COMPOSITION

The Environmental Advisory Council shall be composed of seven (7) residents of this City. (Ord. 2014-2. Passed 1/6/14; Ord. 2016-21. Passed 7/19/16)

#### 146.03 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

Environmental Advisory Council members shall be appointed in accordance with the following procedures:

- 1) All council members shall be appointed by Bethlehem City Council.
- 2) Council members' terms of office shall expire on the first Monday in January following the last year of their term in office.

- 3) Duly appointed council members shall serve a term of three years, except that initial appointments shall be so staggered that the terms of approximately one-third of the membership shall expire each year.

(Ord. 2014-2. Passed 1/6/14.)

#### 146.04 NON-COMPENSATION

Environmental Advisory Council members shall receive no compensation for their services.

#### 146.05 ADVISORY BODY; ACTIVITIES

The Environmental Advisory Council is to be advisory to and shall coordinate its activities with the elected officials, planning commission and other such local governmental agencies.

#### 146.06 CHAIRPERSON

The City Council shall designate the chairperson of the council. (Ord. 2014-2. Passed 1/6/14; Ord. 2016-21. Passed 7/19/16)

#### 146.07 POWERS

The Environmental Advisory Council shall have the following powers:

- 1) Identify environmental problems, research solutions, and make recommendations to Bethlehem City Council and City of Bethlehem Departments and Administration.
- 2) Recommend plans and programs to the appropriate agencies for the promotion and conservation of the natural resources and for the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment within the City of Bethlehem and its surrounding areas.
- 3) Make recommendations as to the possible use of open land areas and/or environmentally sensitive lands within the City of Bethlehem and its surrounding areas.
- 4) Promote community environmental programs.
- 5) 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.

- 6) Advise the appropriate local governmental agencies in the acquisition of property, both real and personal.
- 7) Review subdivision and land development plans as appropriate.
- 8) To assist and maintain a map of the City of Bethlehem and its surrounding areas.
- 9) Advise Bethlehem City Council and City of Bethlehem Departments and Administration upon issues of energy conservation.
- 10) To undertake such environmental tasks as requested by Bethlehem City Council and City of Bethlehem Departments and Administration.

#### 146.08 RECORDS AND REPORTS

The Environmental Advisory Council shall keep records of its meetings and activities and shall make an annual report which shall be printed in the annual municipal report (if applicable) or otherwise made known and available. Minutes of each meeting shall be forwarded to Bethlehem City Council and the City of Bethlehem Administration.

#### 146.09 TERM

The Environmental Advisory Council established in Article 146 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bethlehem (Ordinance 4431, passed May 1, 2007) known as the City of Bethlehem Environmental Advisory Council shall continue in existence indefinitely; or until such time as Bethlehem City Council takes action as to the term of existence of the Environmental Advisory Council. (Ord. 2010-12. Passed 5/19/10.)

(Ord. 4431. Passed 5/1/07.)