

July 20, 2010

Bill, Dave and George:

After conducting a scoping process that included a public meeting on Monday July, 10, 2010 and a blast mail to members advertising the Draft Ordinance, SWAN's membership proposed an addition and a revision at last night's meeting:

Addition: To cover more bases maybe the 505.6 Exemption should include: J. "The legal and safe discharge of firearms, such as for target practice, sporting purposes, testing for function and accuracy."

Revision: What SWAN is advocating is retention of the timeframes in the current noise ordinance (505.A; No.1), that establishes the hours of the day for properties receiving noise. These timeframes are currently 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. The proposed ordinance would extend the time period by one hour to start the lower decibel levels after 10 p.m. Given our experiences, this one hour of evening quiet would provide for protection of those working all day and desiring some solitude during the summer evening hours.

SWAN had discussions with Chief Johnson regarding this suggestion, and also lowering the decibel levels for both time periods, but at this point there is ample strength in the proposed ordinance for the decibel levels.

Our only salient point on this issue is keeping the timeframes from the current ordinance would retain consistency, and retain consistency with some of the language in the newly proposed ordinance. There were some incongruities in the language that talked about 9 p.m., and also 10 p.m., and keeping one standard would make the implementation of the 7 am to 9 pm more uniform.

I wanted to thank all of you for your work on this issue as well as your commitment to public health and safety. This has been a long and challenging process, but I believe the final product will benefit the entire Township and provide an additional level of security for our residents.

Sincerely,

Eric Epstein, Chairman
SWAN