

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL BUILDING CODE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Building Code Office

1073 N Fifth St.

Fremont, Ohio 43420

10/25/21 - 4:00PM

1. Call to Order – Tom Hoffman called the meeting to order.
2. Roll Call – (see sign in sheet)
3. Meeting Minutes 8/11/2021 were sent to the committee for review. Andy Boedeker made a motion to accept the minutes. Russ Zimmerman seconded the motion. Motion carried.
4. New Business was covered first. Contractors were invited to tour the building and make comments or ask questions to the Committee or to Bob Kurtz, Chief Inspector. Tom turned the meeting over to Bob. Bob pointed out the different areas of the office and what they are used for. He then walked through the permit process they are following as well as inspection process and occupancy permit processes. He explained his office will do safety inspections for the fire departments. Contractors need to register online on the web page or they can come in to the office to register. Bob explained that if you own the building you are working on you do not have to register as a contractor but you do need to have inspections completed. There was a question regarding the County fees compared to State fees. What he is found is new building fees run slightly higher than the State and renovation fees are slightly lower than the State. There have been a couple of concerns regarding the calculation of fees by a couple of contractors and when investigated they were not calculated correctly and were not higher or just slightly higher. A question was asked on why they felt it was necessary to form the office. Russ Zimmerman noted the intent of the Commercial and Industrial Office was to keep things close for the Contractors. Tom Hoffman also noted the State is slowly getting out of the business because they don't have the staffing. The code and fees are not new they have just been moved from Columbus to the County. Tom Hoffman took a few more questions from Contractors. The Committee was asked how they are policing the area for permits and inspections. It was noted the State currently does not police and the most effective way is to have someone file a report in the local office if they notice a new project that doesn't appear to have permits they should contact Bob at the Building Code office.
5. There was a group present at the meeting that were interested in discussing residential code concerns and rumors. Tom Hoffman noted we have no residential codes. The committee is not discussing residential codes at this time. When the committee was first formed there was a goal to put residential code in place but at this time until the Commercial and Industrial code needs to be a smooth running machine before considering residential. Tom was asked if this would be done in open meetings and he stated if it comes up he assumes the Commissioner would have public meetings to get public opinion. There was many questions and concerns regarding prior meetings and notifications of the meetings, comments on how inspections are handled and other items of concern. Bob Kurtz responded to some of the comments and Tom Hoffman responded to some of the comments.
6. Bob was asked about the Cities and Villages that are currently under the County Jurisdiction. There are still a few that have not signed up. It was noted all Townships fall under the County Jurisdiction and the Cities and Villages have to apply to move under the

County if they want that to happen. All plumbing is done through the County office. This is due to the Health Department contracting with the office for these services. Martha Bowen explained this to the group. Bob is going to check on Green Springs. He has heard from the State they are in our jurisdiction but we have not had any applications or resolutions filed.

The group talked about the best way to communicate information to the public. Martha stated she could push information out through the Health Department, Beth Hannam noted she could push it out through EDC. There was a suggestion that fliers could be placed at the contract supplier stores for contractors to pick up. Bob is going to put together an informational flier to pass around that would include services as well as list the jurisdictions they service.

7. General Discussion - Theresa Garcia is going to reach out to current committee member to see who is still interested in sitting on the committee. If needed the committee members may be updated.
8. Next meeting – November 22, 2021 at 4:00pm at the Building Code Office
9. Motion to adjourn: Dean Schneider Second: Martha Bowen Motion carried.