

**MINUTES
HOPE TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD MEETING
MARCH 1, 2021**

The business meeting of the Hope Township Planning Board was held on Monday, March 1, 2021. Chairman Steve Larena called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. He announced that notice of the meeting was given in compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act – This meeting has been advertised in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.” He then led the Board in the pledge to the flag.

Swearing in of Board Members:

Attorney Thomas administered the oath of office to John Koonz and Matthew Koski.

Roll Call:

Members present: Chris Maier, Steve Larena, Brad Bartow, Terry Urfer, Betsy Peterson, Matthew Koski, John Koonz, Donna Marie, and Mayor Timothy McDonough

Members absent: Robert May and Thomas Toohey

Also Present: Board Attorney Roger Thomas, Board Engineer Ted Rodman, and Board Secretary Alfia Schemm

Correspondence:

2-9-21 DEP, **Re: Singh**

Board Attorney Thomas reviewed the DEP correspondence. Mayor McDonough stated that he has heard from the property owner and it appears that the property will be placed back on the market. Board Engineer Rodman stated that it appears that the Applicant does not need to address the matter, with the Board, as the application has been dismissed without prejudice, due to inactivity.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of February 1, 2021 were distributed prior to the Board meeting.

Mr. Maier made the motion to adopt the minutes. Motion seconded by Mayor McDonough. In a voice vote, all were in favor, except for Mr. Koski and Mr. Koonz, who were not present at the February meeting and they abstained.

Other Business:

Storm water Control Ordinance

The Board reviewed the action taken at the last meeting. Board Secretary Schemm stated that the Storm water Control Ordinance has now been introduced at first reading, with the penalties included.

Mr. Maier made the motion to recommend the Ordinance to the Governing Body. Motion seconded by Mr. Bartow. Discussion on the motion: Ms. Peterson asked if the Environmental Commission should provide comments on the Ordinance. Mayor McDonough stated that the Township has received comments from the Environmental Commission, which can be addressed in the future. In a roll call vote, all were in favor, except for Ms. Peterson, who abstained. Board Attorney Thomas left for the evening.

POP Zone/Master Plan Discussion

Chairman Larena reviewed the discussion items prepared by Ms. Peterson. Mr. Urfer questioned the accuracy of the Zoning Map and he commented on properties that are

presently preserved, lots in the POP that can be developed, and the LDAR and LDARH zones. Mr. Urfer stated that he would like to prepare a map depicting the lots that are preserved within the Township and not developable and the lots within the Township that are buildable/developable, which was discussed with the Board. Mr. Koonz suggested that an hour per meeting be allocated for this discussion. After a brief discussion the Board agreed.

Budget for 2021

The Board discussed whether they wished to request additional funds, in addition to the regular annual budget.

Mr. Urfer made the motion to recommend the same budget as last year, with no additional funds. Motion seconded Mr. Maier. In a roll call vote, all were in favor, except for Mayor McDonough, who abstained. Ms. Peterson questioned the amount of the Planning Board budget. Board Secretary Schemm stated that she does not have that figure available to her this evening.

Open to the Public:

Chairman Larena opened the meeting to the public.

Fred Stine, Delaware River Keeper Network, asked if the Board's "working maps" can be shared with the public. Board Secretary Schemm stated that she can share the maps to the screen and also post them on the Township Website.

Monica Sobon stated that she can also share documents and she asked when the next meeting will be held. Chairman Larena stated that at this time the Board will be holding discussions at their regular meetings, on the first Monday of the Month. Board Secretary Schemm stated that the next meeting is scheduled for April 5th.

With there being no further public comment, the meeting was closed to the public.

Adjournment:

With there being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Alfia Schemm
Board Secretary
3/30/21