

MINUTES
HOPE TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2020

The reorganization and business meeting of the Hope Township Planning Board was held on Monday, January 6, 2020. Attorney Roger Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:30 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, Terry Urfer, Mayor Timothy McDonough, and Tom Toohey.

Roll Call:

Members present: Chris Maier, Steve Larena, Tom Toohey, Terry Urfer, John Koonz, Matthew Koski, Mayor Timothy McDonough, and Robert May.

Members absent: Betsy Peterson, Donna Marie, and Neil Rosenberg

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

Reorganization:

Election of Chairman

Attorney Thomas called for a nomination for Chairman. Mr. Koonz made the motion to nominate Steve Larena for Chairman. Motion seconded by Mr. Urfer. With there being no further nominations, the nominations were closed. In a roll call vote, all were in favor of nominating Steve Larena as Chairman.

Election of Vice Chairman

Chairman Larena called for a nomination for Vice Chairman and he made the motion to nominate Robert May. Motion seconded by Mr. Urfer. With there being no further nominations, the nominations were closed. In a roll call vote, all were in favor of nominating Robert May as Vice Chairman.

Appointment of Board Professionals:

Chairman Larena made the motion to retain Dolan & Dolan, Roger Thomas Esq., as the Board Attorney. Motion seconded by Mr. Urfer. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Mr. Koonz made the motion to retain Rodman and Associates, Ted Rodman P.E., as the Board Engineer. Motion seconded by Mr. May. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Mr. Koonz made the motion to retain Heyer, Gruel and Associates as the Board Planner. Motion seconded by Mayor McDonough. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Appointment of Board Secretary

Mr. Urfer made the motion to appoint Alfia Schemm as Board Secretary. Motion seconded by Mr. May. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Designation of Meeting Dates, Time, Place

The meetings will commence at 7:30 p.m., at the Hope Township Municipal Building, 407 Hope-Great Meadows Road, Hope Township, Warren County, New Jersey, unless designated/advertised and announced elsewhere.

Mr. Koonz made the motion to designate the Date, Time and Place as distributed. Motion seconded by Mr. Maier. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Adoption of the Official Newspaper

Mr. Koonz made the motion to designate the Star Gazette and the NJ Herald for publication of legal notices and to receive notices pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, the same as the Governing Body. Motion seconded by Mr. Urfer. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Adoption of "Rules Governing Internal Affairs-Board Bylaws"

Mr. Koonz made the motion to adopt the Rules Governing Internal Affairs-Board Bylaws. Motion seconded by Mr. Urfer. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Adoption of Professionals Resolution

Mr. Koonz made the motion to adopt the Professionals Resolution. Motion seconded by Mayor McDonough. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Adoption of Meeting Time Date and Place Resolution

Mr. Maier made the motion to adopt the Resolution. Motion seconded by Mr. Koonz. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of November 4, 2019 were distributed prior to the Board meeting.

Mr. Koonz made the motion to adopt the minutes. Motion seconded by Mr. May. In a voice vote, all were in favor of adopting the minutes, except for Mr. Toohey, Mayor McDonough, and Mr. Maier, who were not present at the November 4, 2019, meeting and they abstained.

Other Business:

Singh Application

Board Attorney Thomas noted that there a new attorney will be representing the Singh application and they are working on their DEP permits. Mr. Maier had several procedural question, which were addressed by Board Attorney Thomas. Mr. Urfer commented on the vacant Tramontin building and whether the Board should/could be looking at the POP Zone, which the Board discussed.

Campbell Property

Mr. Urfer went on to review the status of the Campbell Property.

Bills:

Rodman Associates

Re: St. John 69.00

Mr. Koonz made the motion to approve the voucher. Motion seconded by Mr. May. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Dolan & Dolan

Re: General 195.22

Re: Singh 366.97

Re: St. John 242.47

Mr. Koon made the motion to approve the vouchers. Motion seconded by Mr. Maier. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Open to the Public:

Chairman Larena opened the meeting to the public. With there being no 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 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Alfia Schemm
Board Secretary
9/9/20