

MINUTES
HOPE TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 4, 2019

The agenda/business meeting of the Hope Township Planning Board was held on Monday, November 4, 2019. Chairman Steve Larena 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 led the Board in the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call:

Members present: Steve Larena, Robert May, Betsy Peterson, Donna Marie, Terry Urfer, Matthew Koski, and John Koonz.

Members absent: Neil Rosenberg, Tom Toohey, Mayor McDonough, and Chris Maier.

Also Present: Board Attorney Roger Thomas and Board Secretary Alfia Schemm.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of September 9, 2019 were distributed prior to the Board meeting. Mr. May made the motion to adopt the minutes. Motion seconded by Mr. Koski. In a voice vote, all were in favor of adopting the minutes, except for Ms. Marie, Mr. Urfer, Mr. Koonz, and Ms. Peterson, who were not present at the September meeting and abstained.

Memorializing Resolution:

16-001 Sarabjit Singh, Block 3700, Lot 400; Block 3701, Lot 100

Mr. May made the motion to adopt the Resolution. Motion seconded by Mr. Koski. In a roll call vote, all were in favor, except for Ms. Marie, Mr. Urfer, Mr. Koonz, and Ms. Peterson, who were not present at the September meeting and abstained

#14-001 St. John the Baptist Serbian Orthodox Church, Preliminary and Final Major Site Plan, Block 4000, Lot 500- Extension Request

Mr. Koski made the motion to adopt the Resolution. Motion seconded by Mr. May. In a roll call vote, all were in favor, except for Ms. Marie, Mr. Urfer, Mr. Koonz, and . Peterson, who were not present at the September meeting and abstained

Other Business:

Ms. Peterson asked if the Board could open up discussion on removing automobile service stations, as a permitted use, in the POP zone. Board Attorney Thomas recommended that nothing should be done until the Singh application is concluded. The Board continued to discuss the matter and the mechanism in adopting Ordinances. Ms. Peterson stated her concern about future development applications. Board Attorney Thomas stated that it his understanding that the Singh application will be back before the Board shortly. Ms. Peterson commented on the responsibility of the Board and her concern in protecting the Township. Board Attorney Thomas stated his concern about the Board taking a position, outside the hearing process, when there is pending application. After a brief discussion several Board Members agreed to wait in making any ordinance recommendations.

Mr. Urfer updated the Board on the dumping on the Campbell Foundry property and the DEP violations that were issued.

Bills:

Dolan & Dolan

Re: Singh

67.75

Mr. May made the motion to approve the voucher. Motion seconded by Mr. Koonz. In a roll call vote, all were in favor, except for Ms. Peterson, who abstained.

Open to the Public:

Chairman Larena opened the meeting to the public.

Phyllis Howe asked if there is a time frame in which the Singh application needs to reapply, which was addressed by Board Attorney Thomas.

Pat Koeniges questioned the Board Attorney's recommendation and she stated the concern over protecting the Township.

Jodi Keegan questioned the legal opinion offered and what is being done in other Municipalities, which was discussed and reviewed by Board Attorney Thomas.

Tom Bodolsky stated that he thinks that the Board is being short sighted as there are other properties located in the POP zone. He also commented about eliminating other uses in the POP zone and the filing or re-filing of the Singh application.

Mr. Urfer recommended meeting to look at the other uses in the Zone, which was briefly discussed with the Board.

Ravi Romano commented on the legal recommendation and the discussion on warehouses, which Board Attorney Thomas addressed

Tom Bodolsky questioned the dismissal without prejudice and the resubmission, which was addressed by Board Attorney Thomas.

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

Adjournment:

With there being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Alfia Schemm
Board Secretary

1/1/20