

MINUTES
HOPE TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD MEETING
APRIL 6, 2015

The agenda/business meeting of the Hope Township Planning Board was held on Monday, April 6, 2015. Marvin Fish called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and he announced that tonight's meeting is a joint meeting with the Township Committee. 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 of allegiance.

Swearing in of Board Members:

Board Attorney Thomas administered the oath of office to Mayor Timothy McDonough and John Koonz

Roll Call:

Members present: Marvin Fish, Neil Rosenberg, Chris Maier, Steve Larena, Tom Toohey, John Koonz, Mayor Timothy McDonough, and Robert May.

Members absent: Betsy Peterson and Brian LaBar.

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

Township Committee:

Mayor McDonough announced that notice of tonight's 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, on April 2nd, 2015."

Members present: Mayor Timothy McDonough, John Koonz, and George Beatty.

Also Present: Township Attorney Michael Selvaggi and Township Clerk Mary Pat Quinn.

Correspondence:

2-24-15 Frelinghuysen Twp, **Re: Ordinance 2015-06**

4-06-15 Debra Nicholson, **Re: Robert & Jason May**

Chairman Fish noted the correspondence and he reviewed the request for a completeness determination and hearing on May 4th for the May Application.

New Business:

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

It was noted that an email was received from Steven Schepis, Esq. requesting that this matter be adjourned.

Bills:

Dolan & Dolan

2-27-15 Re: St. John Church 173.33

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

Rodman & Associates

3-31-15 Re: General 63.50

3-31-15 Re: St. John Church 1451.50

Mr. Maier made the motion to approve the vouchers. Motion seconded by Mr. Larena. Discussion on the motion: Board Secretary Schemm confirmed that there is sufficient escrow in the St. John Church account. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Open to the Public:

Chairman Fish opened the meeting to the public. With there being no public comment, the meeting was closed to the public.

Other Business:

COAH Discussion

Board Attorney Thomas thanked the Board and Township Committee for meeting this evening to discuss the recent Supreme Court Case and COAH. He asked that the joint meeting be held in Executive Session as there is potential litigation.

In a motion made by Mr. Koonz and seconded by Mr. Beatty, the Township Committee went into Executive Session. Discussion on the motion: Mayor McDonough questioned the potential litigation, which was addressed by Board Attorney Thomas. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

In a motion made by Mr. Rosenberg and seconded by Mr. Larena, the Planning Board went into Executive Session. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Executive Session:

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Hope Township Planning Board and Township Committee, Warren County, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter-specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows: Potential Litigation
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public at the conclusion of each individual specified subject matter.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Date adopted: April 6, 2015

In a motion made by Mr. Koonz and seconded by Mr. Beatty, the Township Committee, came out of Executive Session. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

In a motion made by Mr. Maier and seconded by Mr. Rosenberg, the Planning Board, came out of Executive Session. In a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Adjournment: In a motion made and seconded both the Township Committee and Planning Board adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted:

Alfia Schemm
Board Secretary