

MINUTES
HOPE TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD MEETING
APRIL 4, 2016

The agenda/business meeting of the Hope Township Planning Board was held on Monday, April 4, 2016. Chairman Fish called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and 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.

Roll Call:

Members present: Marvin Fish, Steve Larena, Betsy Peterson, Brian LaBar, Christopher John Kruk, Robert May, and Mayor Timothy McDonough.

Members absent: Neil Rosenberg, John Koonz, Tom Toohey, and Chris Maier.

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

Correspondence:

Chairman Fish noted that he is in receipt of an email regarding a concern that was raised by Ms. McDonough and the existing sign ordinance. Mayor McDonough stated that the Township Committee has requested that the Zoning Officer review the present Sign Ordinance and provide comments and recommendations. It was noted that the Chamber of Commerce would also be asked to comment.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of February 1, 2016, were distributed prior to the Board meeting.

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

Old Business:

#15-002 Robert and Jason May, Block 1100, Lot 400

The Board reviewed the request for an additional extension of time to resolve some issues with the County. Mr. May is requesting an extension of time to July 1, 2016.

Mr. LaBar made the motion to grant the extension of time. Motion seconded by Mayor McDonough. In a roll call vote, all were in favor, except for Mr. May, who abstained.

Memorializing Resolution:

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

Board Attorney Thomas stated that he received several recommendations made by Chairman Fish, Attorney Schepis, and the Board Secretary. The revised draft Resolution of March 31st was used as a starting point and Board Attorney Thomas reviewed, with the Board, the recommended modifications that were emailed to him by Attorney Schepis and Board Secretary Schemm. After a lengthy discussion and review, the Board agreed to the modifications suggested, reviewed, and discussed this evening: except for the suggested modification that each grave site could have two internments.

A member of the church was present and he stated that one trailer is to allowed and only one trailer is be removed.

Chairman Fish stated a concern over the email that was sent out in regards to the concerns that were raised over the "clear" name of the parish. Board Attorney Thomas stated that he reviewed the title information that was sent to him and he stated that he is willing to modify the Resolution to reflect that Hope is a satellite facility of the Paterson parish. Board Attorney Thomas stated that he will incorporate all of the clarifications/modifications, into a revised Resolution, which the Chairman will review and approve. He stated that it will not need to come back to the Board, unless there is an issue.

Mr. Larena made the motion to adopt the Resolution as reviewed and discussed this evening. Motion seconded by Mr. LaBar. In a roll call vote, all were in favor, except for Mayor McDonough, who did not hear all of the testimony and abstained.

Other

Both Board Attorney Thomas and Mayor McDonough updated the Board on the status of the Affordable Housing matter. Mayor McDonough stated a concern over the additional funds that they are now being asked to provide.

Bills:

Dolan & Dolan		
Re: St. John the Baptist Serbian Church		688.68
Re: May		129.75
Re: May		48.47
Rodman Associates		
Re: General		32.50
Re: St. John the Baptist Serbian Church		1950.00
Re: St. John the Baptist Serbian Church		422.50

Mr. LaBar made the motion to approve the vouchers. Motion seconded by Mayor McDonough. 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.

Adjournment:

With there being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:31.

Respectfully Submitted:

Alfia Schemm
Board Secretary
6/1/16