

**PLANNING BOARD
MINUTES**

January 14, 2013

On the above date at the Port Republic Fire Hall, 116 Blakes Lane, Port Republic, New Jersey Planning Board Vice-Chairman Gail Haviland called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and made a statement in compliance with Sunshine Law.

Roll Call

Members Present: Steven Allgeyer, Nick Capille, Mayor Gary Giberson, Gail Haviland, Robert Haviland, Barry Horas, Jack Kelly, Virginia Laird, and Councilwoman Donna Riegel.

Board Secretary: Vicki Cantell

Board Attorney: Mike Fitzgerald

Members Absent: John Fallucca and Wayne Smith.

Minutes – On the motion of Ms. Laird, second of Mr. Allgeyer and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of November 12, 2012.

City Council Report – Mrs. Riegel stated that the last council meeting was well attended due to a questionnaire sent to the residents. It was a good meeting wherein everyone was respectful and polite and left well-informed.

She also stated that Council wanted to assist Sandy victims by suggesting an ordinance allowing those affected to be able to rebuild within their existing footprints even if they are non-conforming. A discussion of the potential problems such as height requirements and especially noting the need for careful review took place. It was suggested that all non-conforming sites should be required to have the required variance but that the variance fees could be waived. This would apply only for Sandy victims and all building permits would still be in place. On the motion of Mr. Horas, Second of Mr. Allgeyer and carried unanimously to recommend that Council waive variance fees for Sandy victims on a one time only basis.

NEW BUSINESS

Reorganization

Chairman – On the motion of Mr. Haviland, second of Mr. Horas and carried by unanimous role call vote to have John Fallucca serve as Chairman.

Vice-Chairman - On the motion of Mayor Giberson, second of Mr. Allgeyer and carried by unanimous role call vote to have Gail Haviland serve as Vice-Chairman.

Secretary - On the motion of Mr. Haviland, second of Mr. Horas and carried by unanimous role call vote to have Vicki Cantell serve as secretary.

Attorney - On the motion of Mr. Horas, second of Mr. Allgeyer and carried by unanimous role call vote to have Mike Fitzgerald serve as Board Attorney.

Engineer – On the motion Mr. Haviland, second of Mr. Allgeyer and carried by unanimous role call vote to have Matt Doran serve as Board Attorney.

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Planner and Consultant - On the motion of Mayor Giberson, second of Mr. Allgeyer and carried by unanimous role vote to Lance Landgraf, Jr. serve as Planner and Tiffany CuvIELLO as Consultant on an as-needed case-by-case basis.

Public Notices - On the motion of Mr. Horas, second of Mr. Allgeyer and carried by unanimous role call vote to have the Atlantic City Press and Mainland Journal serve as official newspapers for public notices.

Meeting Dates - On the motion of Mr. Haviland, second of Mrs. Laird and carried by unanimous role call vote accept the dates as submitted.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Fitzgerald and Board members for their dedicated service in a time when volunteerism is decreasing. It was also noted that the members whose terms had expired were reappointed during the Council meeting.

FEMA – Mayor Giberson explained the issues regarding the new FEMA height and zone recommendations and the need for the Board to make a recommendation to Council as to whether that should be adopted by Port Republic. There was a lengthy discussion where the possibility of changes still to come was noted along with the ramifications to home owners were noted. Mr. Kelly showed the Board the FEMA flood plane maps noting that homes in the “V” zone would need to be raised to BFE 13 plus an additional one foot “free Board.” He also noted that the city has a height restriction of 35 feet as anything higher that that requires different building construction requirements than those falling below that height as well as fire code. It could also cause potential problems for the fire department. Attorney Fitzgerald noted that as these are only recommendations, there is no time factor in play, and it might be premature to make a recommendation until all the information was available. It was decided that the Board would table a recommendation until more complete information was available.

OLD BUSINESS

Atlantic City Electric Substation – On the motion of Mr. Allgeyer, second of Mr. Haviland and carried by unanimous eligible role call to approve the ACE resolution.

CORRESPONDENCE – was reviewed.

PAYMENT OF BILLS - On the motion of Mayor Giberson, second of Mr. Allgeyer and carried by unanimous role call vote to pay the bills.

ADJOURNMENT - On the motion of Mr. Allgeyer, second of Mrs. Riegel and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki L. Cantell
Secretary