

**PLANNING BOARD  
MINUTES**

**May 9, 2016**

On the above date at the Port Republic City Hall, 143 Main Street, Port Republic, New Jersey, Planning Board Chairman John Fallucca called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and made a statement in compliance with Sunshine Law.

**Roll Call**

Members Present; Steven Allgeyer, John Fallucca, Mayor Gary Giberson, Gail Haviland, Robert Haviland, Barry Horas, Jack Kelly, and Council Representative Donna Riegel.

Board Secretary Vicki Cantell

Absent: Virginia Laird and Board Attorney Fitzgerald

**Minutes** - On the motion of Mrs. Haviland, second of Mr. Allgeyer and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of April 11, 2016.

**City Council Report** – Mrs. Riegel noted that Councilman Craig Rummeler had resigned as he was moving away from Port Republic. Council will vote on a replacement that will serve until the end of the year.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Solar Field** - Mayor Giberson updated the Board on his contacts regarding the solar farm. He has been informed by Bob Martin, DEP Commissioner, that they can only be placed on brown fields. He met with Rick Morose, BPU Chairman, who agreed to set up a meeting for the three of them and he will take City Engineer Matt Doran with him. If the solar farm is feasible, the zoning would have to be changed to a redevelop zone.

**Port Store** – There has been a rumor that Port Store has been sold and the purchaser is putting in a grill and sandwiches with outside tables. The Building Official has had inquires and the Mayor has been contacted by Haviland Realty. They do have an interested party but it has not yet been sold. The Mayor shared the City's concerns and the site limitation with the contaminated soil, septic deficiencies, and parking issues with broker Dick Haviland of Keller Williams. The City is moving forward with the redevelopment zone and architect Harry Harper is doing drawings for the site. A new unit for the Post Office, room for a general store and possibly a gas station as well as green space is being included.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Honey & Sweets Farm Market** – The owner was in attendance regarding installing a 32 square foot sign in front of his stand as allowed under the New Jersey State Farm Act. It would be 15 feet high with the bottom being 6 feet from the ground for line-of-sight view. There would also be a 1 foot high flower bed beneath. This size sign does not meet the City requirements but the Board was not opposed to it recognizing the need for advertising. They were concerned with the parking situation wherein patrons are backing out onto Chestnut Neck Road and that with the potential additional business the sign might bring that the problem could increase. The Board suggested a small Committee to meet with the owner and see if alternative parking could be worked out. Mr. Allgeyer and Mr. Kelly volunteered and will meet Saturday morning at the site to assess the situation. On the motion of Mayor Giberson, second of Mrs. Haviland, and carried unanimously to have the Committee assess the situation and report back.

**Abandoned/Derelict Properties** – The Board has noted the increasing number of properties which appear to be in disrepair and expressed their concerns. The procedure for condemning properties was discussed but no action was suggested at this time.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – None

**BILLS** – On the motion of Mrs. Haviland, second of Mr. Allgeyer and carried by unanimous roll call vote to pay the secretary.

**ADJOURNMENT** – On the motion of Mrs. Haviland, second of Mr. Allgeyer and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Vicki L. Cantell  
Board Secretary