

BERNARDS TOWNSHIP

PLANNING BOARD

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

April 17, 2018

Chairwoman Piedici called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

FLAG SALUTE

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Chairwoman Piedici read the following open meeting and procedural statement:

"In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law of 1975, notice of this regular meeting of the Planning Board of the Township of Bernards was posted on the bulletin board in the reception hall of the Municipal Building, Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ, was sent to the Bernardsville News, Bernardsville, NJ, and to the Courier News, Bridgewater, NJ, on January 19, 2017 and was electronically mailed to those people who have requested individual notice and paid the required fee.

The following procedure has been adopted by the Bernards Township Planning Board. There will be no new cases heard after 10:00 PM and no new witnesses or testimony heard after 10:30 PM."

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Crane, Moschello, Piedici, Ross, Surano, Zaidel.

Members Late: NONE

Members Absent: Asay, Bianchi, Coelho, Malay

Also Present: Board Attorney Jonathan Drill, Esq.; Board Secretary, Cyndi Kiefer.

Mr. Moschello moved to excuse the absences of Ms. Asay, Committeewoman Bianchi, Dr. Coelho and Deputy Mayor Malay. Mr. Surano seconded and by unanimous Voice Vote, the motion was carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 3, 2018 - Regular Session - Mr. Moschello moved approval of the minutes as revised by Mr. Crane. Second by Mr. Ross.

Roll Call:

Aye: Crane, Moschello, Piedici, Ross, Surano, Zaidel.

Nay: NONE

Abstain: NONE

Motion carried.

April 3, 2018 - Closed Session - Mr. Ross moved approval of the minutes as drafted. Second by Mr. Zaidel.

Roll Call:

Aye: Moschello, Piedici, Ross, Surano, Zaidel.

Nay: NONE

Abstain: NONE

Motion carried.

At 7:35 PM, Mr. Crane recused himself and left the room.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution authorizing a closed session for the purpose of: discussion of potential employment and terms and conditions of employment for the position of Planning Board Engineer.

Chairwoman Piedici read the resolution in its entirety into the record.

Mr. Surano moved approval and Mr. Moschello seconded.

Roll Call:

Aye: Moschello, Piedici, Ross, Surano, Zaidel.
Nay: NONE
Abstain: NONE

Motion carried.

The Open Session of the April 17, 2018 Planning Board meeting was recessed at 7:35 PM.

* * * * *

Mr. Ross moved, Mr. Surano seconded, and by unanimous Voice Vote, the Open Session of the April 17, 2018 Planning Board meeting was reconvened at 7:40 PM.

OPEN SESSION

Resolution #18-06 - Professional Services Contract for Planning Board Engineer Awarded to Cathleen Marcelli, PE, CME, of the firm Mott MacDonald LLC.

Mr. Surano moved approval and Mr. Moschello seconded.

Roll Call:

Aye: Moschello, Piedici, Ross, Surano, Zaidel.
Nay: NONE
Abstain: NONE

Motion carried.

Mr. Crane returned to the room at 7:42 PM.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF - None

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS

Mr. Crane noted that the Somerset County Federation of Republican Women had announced that Committeewoman Carol Bianchi is the recipient of the 2018 Millicent Fenwick Award and congratulated her on that achievement.

Mr. Crane suggested that the Board vote that evening to add a "Public Comments" section to all Planning Board agendas. He referred to page 4, #14 of the "Goals and Objectives" chapter of the 2010 Master Plan (handed out earlier in the evening by Mr. Crane) which states one of the goals of the Master Plan is, "to maintain a high level of citizen involvement in the land use planning process based on an informed citizenry." After a Board discussion, Mr. Crane modified his request and asked that the Board vote that evening to open any Planning Board discussions involving ordinance referrals for public comment. After a Board discussion, Mr. Crane modified his request and proposed that the public be given formal notice whenever an ordinance was referred for Master Plan consistency. In response to the Board discussion that ensued, Mr. Crane suggested that, instead of formal notice, the phrase "public comment will be allowed" should be added to the agenda whenever there is an

ordinance referral. Several members noted that they could not recall an instance when public comment had not been allowed by the chairperson and that there was no need to specifically list the phrase on the agenda. A straw poll was taken and the proposal was tabled until the full Board was available for discussion (only 6 members were present).

Mr. Ross advised Chairwoman Piedici that, effective immediately, he was resigning as a member of the Planning Board and then thanked the Township Committee for giving him the opportunity to serve the Township. Several members thanked him for his lifelong public service not only in this Township but in Madison Borough and the military.

Mr. Crane offered to hold a seminar with Mr. Moschello on fire safety in planning for the Board in the future.

ADJOURN

Having no further business to conduct, Chairwoman Piedici asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Surano moved, Mr. Moschello seconded and by unanimous Voice Vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cyndi Kiefer, Secretary
Township of Bernards
Planning Board