

Maurice River Township Land Use Board

The Chairman announced that this meeting was being held in accordance with Open Public Meetings Act of New Jersey.

Meeting Minutes: January 6, 2016

Present: B. Stowman, C. Thompson, A. Sarclette, J. Oliver, R. Chard, J. Carrara, R. Hoffman, G. Gross, T. Imbaratto J. Pflaumer, K. Whildin, M. Benson

Flag Salute

J. Lafferty resigned as a member of the Land Use Board. Thomas Imbaratto was appointed by the Township Committee as a regular member, Kenneth Whildin was appointed by the Township Committee as an alternate member. Mr. Whildin was sworn in at the Township Committee Re-organization meeting.

Solicitor Benson swore in the secretary, Lillian Johnson, and members Robert Chard and Thomas Imbaratto, who were reappointed by the Township Committee.

Approval of December Minutes

There was a question by Carrara in reference to a line on page two of the December meeting minutes where Roy Oliver spoke in reference to supporting a bill about tax exempt entities purchasing property in the township. It stated "any tax exempt entity that tries to sell property", Carrara stated it should have been "buy" property. The secretary stated that she listened to the recording and it was written as stated. Oliver clarified any entity that wants to buy or sell, the nonprofit organization would have to pay full tax on full assessment. We will go over it further after the re-organization part of the meeting.

Minutes were approved as written, motion Chard, 2nd Hoffman, All in Favor, Whildin abstained.

Correspondence

NJ Planner

2015 Forestry Report, no changes. One will be coming up this year, it will be expiring.

Mosslander has 2 active on list.

FEMA letter to A. Sarclette, re: Flood Hazard.

Re-Organization

Chairman

Motion to open nominations Carrara, 2nd Sarclette, AIF

Ben Stowman was nominated

No further nominations made

Motion to close nominations Sarclette, 2nd Hoffman, AIF

Stowman was reappointed as Chairman with a unanimous roll call vote

Vice Chairman

Motion to open nominations Carrara, 2nd Lafferty, AIF

Charles Thompson was nominated

No further nominations made

Motion to close nominations Carrara, 2nd Lafferty, AIF

Thompson was reappointed as Vice Chairman with a unanimous roll call vote

The Township Committee has appointed as follows:

Engineer, Dixon Associates

Planner, Tiffany CuvIELLO

Surveyor, Battistini

Motion to reappoint the remaining slate and appoint Battistini as Surveyor and also including the meeting time and official paper, by Carrara, 2nd Gross AIF on a roll call vote.

Solicitor Buonadonna and Benson Engineer Dixon Associates

Surveyor Battistini Planner Tiffany CuvIELLO

Secretary Lillian Johnson Official Paper South Jersey Times

Meeting Date and Time to be held the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm.

Stowman stated he will think about the site committee for the upcoming year for the February meeting.

Discussion on the previous minutes and the wording of Mr. Oliver in reference to the selling of property to a tax entity.

Oliver stated that the intent was that any entity selling property to a nonprofit organization, the receiving NPO entity would have to pay full taxes on a full assessment. Sarclette stated that is how he read it, Stowman stated he read it as the NPO as the seller.

Benson asked if the Twp. Committee would be proposing this to the state, will they be passing a resolution. Stowman asked if the Committee would like a recommendation from the LUB.

Oliver stated that Mayor Pikolycky, he is asking this of the townships and counties. Michelle Behm is currently getting the tally of municipalities within Cumberland County and their percentages of tax exempt land. Oliver stated he would like to give Mayor Pikolycky that as well as a Resolution from the LUB and the Township Committee, that way we can act as a full governing body that is behind this concept.

Stowman asked if we are sure we will hit that percentage, Oliver stated you need a minimum of 40% to get garden state funding. He thinks we are at 54%.

Sarclette stated that the tax exempt properties that they do acknowledge in the equation as far as what we get from the state.

Stowman asked if the Board is inclined to do a Resolution to send the Township Committee that the Board is in support. Motion made by Thompson, 2nd Hoffman, AIF on Roll Call Vote

Benson asked if we are waiting on the Twp. to prepare their Resolution and then the Board will adopt a similar Resolution? Sarclette stated that it would be good if the Land Use Board had a Resolution also in support. The question is the time factor, how soon is it needed. Oliver stated the next meeting is the end of January. The LUB Resolution will be memorialized in February but Mayor Pikolycky can be told that it was done at this meeting.

Thompson asked about other surrounding municipalities. Downe Twp. is in support of it.

Oliver stated that it will go before the Pinelands Municipal Council as a group to provide this information to our legislature. They would be the driving force to the legislature. Once we get them our information he is sure the Representatives from Atlantic, Ocean, Cape May, Salem, and Burlington maybe will do the same thing. If it looks like the southern half of NJ is behind this concept then we have a better chance of it being passed.

Sarclette the committee working on putting this together should consider, there should be some kind of mechanism to stop the state from buying it through green acres and then giving it to one of these entities. If the state were to buy property we would have no power to enforce tax on the state.

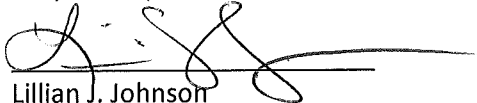
Oliver stated that is something we will have to discuss with Mayor Pikolycky.

Benson gave a brief update on pending Whibco litigation. The insurance company is underwriting our defense. They are assigning Benson to defend the litigation. They kick in after a \$10,000 deductible. Benson stated there is no briefing schedule yet, they will be having a meeting.

Stowman spoke to Ken Whildin in reference to missing meetings that he can come in and listen to the missed minutes.

Public for comment: None
Motion to adjourn Chard, 2nd Carrara, AIF

Respectfully Submitted,


Lillian J. Johnson
Secretary