

MINUTES

PLANNING BOARD

TOWNSHIP OF BERKELEY HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY

Re-Organization Meeting
Virtual Online Public Meeting

January 6, 2021

The Reorganization Meeting of the Planning Board was called to order at 7:30 PM by Craig Johnson via Zoom virtual meeting service.

Mr. Johnson confirmed that the meeting was being held in conformance with all regulations of the SUNSHINE LAW and proper notice had been given to the Courier News; also, the Agenda had been posted on the Township website. The Agenda for the meeting, as well as instructions for public participation in the meeting, have also been posted on the Township website and sent to the newspaper of record. The Agenda items will not necessarily be heard in the order listed and the meeting will not continue significantly past 10:30 PM.

Oath of Office

The oath of office was administered to the following members by William Robertson:

Joseph Graziano, Sr. – Class I Mayor’s Designee

Marcy Schwarz – Class IV Member – 4-year term to end 12/31/2024

Robin Greenwald – Township Official – 1-year term to end 12/31/2021

Jeanne Kingsley - Township Council Representative – 1-year term to end 12/31/2021

Susan Poage – Alternate #2 – 2-year term to end 12/31/22

Roll Call:

Members present were Mr. Johnson, Mr. Hall, Mr. Graziano, Mr. Niceforo, Mr. Monaco, Ms. Schwarz, Ms. Kingsley Ms. Greenwald, Mr. Cunningham and Ms. Poage.

Reorganization

Election of Officers

Regina Giardina, Temporary Chairperson, opened the meeting for nominations for Board Chairman.

Craig Johnson was nominated as Chairman on the motion of Mr. Graziano, seconded by Mr. Niceforo. There were no other nominations and Mr. Johnson was elected Chairman by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Johnson opened the meeting for nominations for Board Vice Chairman. Kevin Hall was nominated as Vice Chairman on the motion of Ms. Kingsley, seconded by Mr. Graziano. There were no other nominations and Mr. Hall was elected Vice Chairman by unanimous roll call vote.

Designation and Adoption of Resolutions

The 2021 Meeting Schedule was approved, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Graziano, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

The Courier and The Star Ledger were designated as Official Newspapers, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Ms. Greenwald, seconded by Mr. Hall, and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Regina Giardina was designated to provide Secretarial Services, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Graziano, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Connie Valenti was designated as Planning Board Secretary, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Ms. Kingsley, and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Connie Valenti was designated as Escrow Official, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Niceforo, seconded by Ms. Kingsley, and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Executive Session

The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:45 pm for the discussion of the submissions received from potential attorneys and engineers for the positions of Board Attorney and Board Engineer. The Executive Session concluded at 7:55 pm.

The Board returned to Public Session at 7:55 p.m. on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Graziano, and carried by unanimous voice vote.

William Robertson of the firm of DiFrancesco, Bateman, Coley, Yospin, Kunzman, Davis and Lehrer was designated as Board Attorney, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Ms. Kingsley, seconded by Mr. Hall, and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

The firm of Neglia Engineering was designated as Board Engineer, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Graziano, seconded by Mr. Niceforo, and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Adoption of Minutes:

Regular Meeting December 9, 2020

A motion was made by Mr. Niceforo, seconded by Mr. Graziano, to adopt the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2020 as presented. The voice vote was unanimous.

Board Discussion

Berkeley Heights Planning Board Rules and Regulations

Mr. Robertson reviewed Board Rules and Regulations and stated that they are consistent with Municipal Land Use Law and include provisions regarding emergency remote meeting procedures.

A motion was made by Mr. Niceforo, seconded by Mr. Cunningham to adopt a Resolution approving the Berkeley Heights Planning Board Rules and Regulations. The voice vote was unanimous.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Niceforo, seconded by Mr. Graziano, to adjourn the meeting. The voice vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Regina Giardina, Secretary Pro-Tem