



TOWN OF SOUTHPORT

1139 Pennsylvania Avenue • Elmira New York 14904

PLANNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 4, 2016
Regular Meeting

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Town of Southport Planning Board held at the Town Hall, 1139 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elmira, New York on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Larry Berman
Jacquelyn French
John Hastings, Alternate Board Member
Chris Parsons
Tim Steed, Vice Chairman
Michael Stephens, Chairman Stephens
Linda Taft

Board Members Absent: Linda Olthof

Others Present: Steven Barnstead, Town Attorney
Peter Rocchi, Code Enforcement Officer
Michelle Murray, Secretary

Chairman Stephens called the January 4, 2016 meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He asked if the Board Members had any comments, questions, concerns or corrections about the November 2, 2015 minutes. Hearing no comments, the Board accepted the minutes as presented.

Next on the agenda was appointment of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary to the Planning Board. Vice Chairman Steed nominated Michael Stephens for Chairman of the Board; Board Member French seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Stephens accepted the nomination.

Chairman Stephens nominated Timothy Steed for Vice Chairman of the Board; Board Member Taft seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Steed accepted the nomination.

Board Member French nominated Michelle Murray for Secretary to the Board; Chairman Stephens seconded the nomination. All were in favor. Mrs. Murray accepted the nomination.

AYES: Berman, French, Hastings, Parsons, Steed, Stephens, Taft
NOES: None
ABSENT: Olthof

Next the Planning Board set the meeting schedule for the year 2016. All meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month with the exception of July 4 meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 5 due to the 4th of July holiday and September 5 meeting will be held on September 6 due to the Labor Day holiday. Deadline for site plan applications will continue to be the third Wednesday of each month. Chairman Stephens made a motion to accept the meeting schedule; Board Member French seconded the motion.

AYES: Berman, French, Hastings, Parsons, Steed, Stephens, Taft
NOES: None
ABSENT: Olthof
MOTION CARRIED.

Next on the agenda was referral from the Town Board to adopt the zoning amendments. The Planning Board Members discussed and agreed with the changes to Chapter 525 Zoning. Vice Chairman Steed recommends that the Town Board consider the adoption of the zoning amendments with the final review of the chapter for administrative and clerical issues and fixed prior to adoption. Chairman Stephens seconded the recommendation.

AYES: Berman, French, Hastings, Parsons, Steed, Stephens, Taft
NOES: None
ABSENT: Olthof
MOTION CARRIED.

Next was referral from the Town Board to amend Chapter 245 Construction Codes, Uniform. The changes included changing the square feet from 100 to 144 square feet to keep it consistent with New York State Building Code, the installation of a fence will now require a building permit and to remove the editor's note at the end of the chapter. Chairman Stephens made a recommendation to the Town Board to accept the amended changes to Chapter 245; Board Member Parsons seconded the recommendation.

AYES: Berman, French, Hastings, Parsons, Steed, Stephens, Taft
NOES: None
ABSENT: Olthof
MOTION CARRIED.

Next was referral from the Town Board to amend Chapter 468 Swimming Pools. The changes included changing the permit fee language and removing the special permit requirement from this section. Chairman Stephens made a recommendation to the Town Board to accept the amended changes to Chapter 468; Board Member Parsons seconded the recommendation.

AYES: Berman, French, Hastings, Parsons, Steed, Stephens, Taft
NOES: None
ABSENT: Olthof
MOTION CARRIED.

Next was referral from the Town Board to amend Chapter 483 Timber Harvesting. The change included changing the permit fee language. Chairman Stephens asked the members of the community that were in attendance if they had any comments. Charles Collins of Kinner Hill, Pine City did not want the government to tell him he has to pay a fee to harvest his land. He was unhappy about his assessment and that his taxes increased by \$700 dollars.

Vice Chairman Steed explained that no fee was being set and that the referral was to change the language. He also explained the impact of timber harvesting has on the Town roads, storm water run-off and the impact on a larger number of people.

Chairman Stephens agreed with Mr. Collins and made a recommendation to the Town Board not to accept the amended changes to Chapter 483; Board Member French seconded the recommendation. Attorney Barnstead clarified that if you vote yes, you oppose the fee language.

AYES: Berman, French, Hastings, Parsons, Stephens, Taft
NOES: Steed
ABSENT: Olthof
MOTION CARRIED.

Planning Board Member Linda Olthof arrived at the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Other business to come before was inquiry of the status of the recommendation the Planning Board made to the Town Board in November requesting them to write a letter to the Elmira City School District to propose a bus loop at the Pine City School to keep the children and families safe and that there needs to be a greater transportation plan that includes parking improvements and bus drop off to alleviate dismissal congestion. Attorney Barnstead said that Town Council Member Roman was writing the letter.

No other business to come before the Board. Board Member French made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Board Member Berman seconded the motion. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Murray
Planning Board Secretary

Original on file with Town Clerk
cc: Planning Board
Town Board
Town Clerk
Town Attorney