

BETHLEHEM PLANNING BOARD

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

BETHLEHEM TOWN BUILDING MEETING ROOM

MARCH 23, 2011

Members present: Alecia Loveless, Chairman Don Lavoie, Mike Ritter, Teresa Wood, Harold Friedman, Patrick Doughty

Alternates present: Jeanne Robillaird, Rose Israel

Chairman Lavoie opened the Public Hearing at 6:00 pm

Chairman Lavoie asked that the Chairman be allowed to appoint alternates as necessary as part of the planning board procedure at each meeting. The Board was in agreement with this. Don stated that was his motion and it was seconded by Alecia Loveless and carried unanimously.

He read the hearing notice: Boundary Line Adjustment for property owned by Dale Sollars located on 240 Willson Heights Road, tax map 407 lots 35.18 and 35.19.

Steve Boulanger from Boulanger consulting presented the plan to the Planning Board.

It was noted by the Chairman that the fees are paid and the abutters have been notice by certified mail.

There is no change in the frontage of the subject property and no new structures on the lot. The name and address of the applicant appears on the plan and the list of abutters is provided separately.

The Board went through the checklist criteria for a boundary line adjustment. Chairman Lavoie moved that the plan is substantially complete. The motion was seconded by Dan Webb and carried unanimously.

Mike Ritter moved to approve the application for boundary line adjustment as presented. The motion was seconded by pat Doughty and carried unanimously.

Andy Smith who had requested time with the planning board to discuss a potential new retail business at the former Harley Davidson Dealership on Route 116 did not show up for his appointment.

Mike Ritter moved to accept the minutes of March 16, 2011 as amended. The motion was seconded by Harold Friedman and carried unanimously.

Mike Ritter moved to approve the minutes of February 16, 2011 as amended. The motion was seconded by Alecia Loveless and carried unanimously.

Harold Friedman expressed concern with the nomination and vote to have Andrea Bryant as an alternate to the Planning board. He stated that he felt that the voters had voted her off the Planning board and that the Planning Board is going against the voters wishes.

Mike Ritter stated that he looks at this a bit differently in that the voters wanted Harold and Patrick on the Board more than they wanted Andrea but that they were not voting against Andrea.

Harold stated he would like to limit the alternates to a total of four and have them work in two teams where they would alternate from one meeting to the next.

It was noted at this time that Andrea had been sworn in earlier in the day and that there is nothing the Board can do now. Chairman Lavoie cautioned Harold that there is a specific process for removing any board member and that there is specific criteria which must be considered.

There was some discussion on how the alternates are chosen how they function when they are needed. Chairman Lavoie stated that he has always remembered the alternates being numbered and serving in that order when they are needed. He added that there have been several times when the board has not had a quorum and has needed to call on more than one alternate.

Patrick Doughty asked if the town has a Capital Improvements Program. Mike Ritter stated that there has been interest in the past but because its requires strong commitment and lots of time, it has never been initiated.

Patrick also asked if there was a map showing the aquifers in town. Don Lavoie stated there is a PDF file which he can send out but told Patrick that the mapping of soils and water are subject to change depending on how close a subject property is.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Sargent

Administrative Assistant