

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 10, 2017 PLANNING BOARD
REORGANIZATION MEETING
HELD AT THE
BOROUGH HALL, BOROUGH OF HILLSDALE

MEMBERS PRESENT: G. Biener, M. Kates, Councilman Pizzella, M. Giancarlo, E. Lichtstein
F. Franco, J. Miano, Mayor Frank, Z. Horvarth

MEMBERS ABSENT: E. Alter, L. Calabria

EMPLOYEES PRESENT: N. Nabbie, Esq., Board Attorney
C. Statile, P.E., Board Engineer
P. Grygiel, P.P., Board Planner
M. Saeli, Acting Deputy Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. with a reading of the Open Public Meeting Statement.

The Council representative for 2017 will be Councilman Frank Pizzella. Mr. Giancarlo was reappointed to the Board as a Class IV member. Ms. Biener was reappointed to the Board as Alternate #2.

Nominations to each position on the Board were made and voted upon. The Board appointed their officials as follows:

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON:

Mr. Giancarlo was elected as 2017 Planning Board Chairperson.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON:

Ms. Miano was elected as 2017 Planning Board Vice Chairperson.

ELECTION OF SECRETARY TO THE BOARD:

Mr. Horvath was elected Secretary to the Planning Board for 2017.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY SECRETARY:

Caitlin Chadwick was appointed Deputy Secretary to the Planning Board for 2017.

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD ENGINEER:

Christopher P. Statile, P.E. was appointed Board Engineer for 2017.

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD PLANNER:

The Board decided to interview Caroline Reiter and Richard Preiss in a closed session meeting for the position.

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD ATTORNEY:

Nylema Nabbie, Esq. of Gittleman, Muhlstock & Chewcaskie was appointed Board Attorney for 2017.

ADOPTION OF MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2017:

The Board adopted the following schedule: January 10th, January 24th, February 9th, February 23rd, March 9th, March 21st, April 13th, April 25th, May 11th, May 25th, June 6th, June 29th, July 13th, July 27th, August 17th, August 29th, September 7th, September 28th, October 12th, October 26th, November 7th, November 21st, December 7th, and December 14th.

The Board will continue to begin their public hearings at 7:30PM with the exception of December 14th which shall begin at 7:00PM.

Chairman Giancarlo asked the Board where they would like to see improvement for 2017. Mayor Frank stated the Council was working on Board recommended ordinances. Mr. Franco stated he wanted to institute guidelines to help govern the Board, such as when the public is speaking making a guide so every citizen has equal time to speak. Board Attorney Nabbie commented that she knows other Boards have time limits on public comments and on duplicate opinions. She added that the by-laws can be amended to include these changes. Mr. Horvath commented that the rules will need to be clear to the public and be stated every meeting. Dr. Lichtstein stated he wanted to be sure that properties follow the resolutions the Board gives, and to make sure the zoning department follows-up on applications. Councilman Pizzella concurred with Dr. Lichtstein that it needs to be clear what the department's opinion of the property is to the Board. He also stated that Board members need to give a reasoned application on why the members vote the way they do. Ms. Nabbie added that when roll call is given to vote, the explanation should be given at that time. Ms. Miano and Ms. Biener agreed with the other Board members' statements. Mr. Horvath wants members to remember to speak into the microphone. Ms. Kates wants the Board to be visionary and be updated on current planning board issues.

The Board voted to adjourn the Reorganization meeting and begin the Agenda Meeting scheduled for the evening.

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan Saeli - Acting Deputy Secretary