

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order and read the following into the record:

The meeting is open to the public in compliance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, Sections 4 & 13. The Board will not hear from any new witnesses after 10:00 pm and will not hear any new testimony after 10:30 pm.

FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Taylor led the Board in a flag salute.

ROLL CALL:

Richard Hughes – Present
George Hutnick – Present
Kevin O’Leary – Present
Donald Leuthe – Present
Susanne Van Sickle – Present
Thomas Madewell – Present
Warren Potter – Present
Tamerith Deller – Present
Lisa Carlson – Absent
Robert Taylor – Present

Mr. Taylor introduced the new Zoning Officer. Mr. Hutnick said he is also the Zoning Officer in Montague Township and the Mayor of Ogdensburg.

MINUTES: March 25, 2021

A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mr. O’Leary. It was seconded by Mr. Madewell and passed with a roll call vote. Roll Call: Richard Hughes – yes, Kevin O’Leary – yes, Donald Leuthe – yes, Susanne Van Sickle – yes, Warren Potter – yes, Thomas Madewell – yes, Tamerith Deller – yes, Robert Taylor – yes.

COMPLETNESS / HEARINGS / CONCEPT: None.

AUDIENCE:

Mr. Taylor opened the meeting to the public. With no public present, the meeting was closed to the public.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. O’Leary said he asked the Board Secretary to see when Mr. Banisch is available to meet with the Board to work on the Master Plan Re-Exam.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

RESOLUTIONS: None.

ORDINANCES: None.

ZONING REPORT:

Mr. Hutnick said he looked at 19 Violet Trail and 23 Violet Trail, which have ongoing issues. He said 25 Violet Trail is also starting to have issues with the dumping of construction debris on it. He said he reached out to the Attorney to get an update on the issues.

LIAISON REPORTS:***Open Space:***

Mr. O'Leary said the Open Space Committee is scheduled to meet on April 27, 2021 to discuss the trail and the potential grant application through the Sussex County Open Space Committee. He said there is another site visit with the lease farmer and the Land Conservancy to identify the proposed location of the trail. Mr. O'Leary said he participated in the Association of N.J. Environmental Commissions webinar on open space preservation and open space plans. They had selected Lafayette to feature because of its successful programs.

Township Committee:

Mr. O'Leary said the owner of The Shoppes at Lafayette had come before the Township Committee with their proposed plan for the Multi-Family Inclusionary Overlay. They were informed that the scope of the project might be too big for that site. He said there was a discussion on the two buildings in the front. He said there was a discussion on converting some of the buildings in the rear of the site to housing units. He said they would look at scaling the number of units back. They may go back to a TRC with the professionals. He said they want to keep some of the retail element but said a phase II may see all residential.

Mr. O'Leary said the Township improvements to the pond are ongoing with the fencing project almost complete. He said a new mesh fence purchased by the LAA was installed to protect traffic from the sporting activities. Mr. O'Leary said the school would not allow soccer due to covid so the LAA has moved soccer practice to the fields by the pond. He said they removed the fencing around the front baseball field to allow for the practice.

Mr. O'Leary said the Township Committee has adopted the revised Personnel Manual, which the Clerk will be distributing. He said it would apply to employees and volunteers.

The Township Attorney is working on a policy to allow permit parking in the municipal lots. He said the Committee did pass an ordinance to prohibit overnight parking.

High Point High School made their presentation before the Committee and there was a question and answer session. Mr. O'Leary explained the school tax levy to the Board.

Mr. O'Leary explained the sale of properties acquired at tax foreclosures is moving forward and an auctioneer has been hired at no cost to the Township.

Mr. O'Leary reported the Township Committee passed a resolution to support a local pension system as opposed to being in the State pension system. They also passed a resolution opposing amendments to the State Worker's Compensation Act, Senate Bill 3375.

Mr. Hughes said the Post Office is still considering sites. Mr. Faustini, the owner of the old Post Office site has a very aggressive proposal he presented to the Post Office for consideration.

Mr. Hughes said Elizabethtown Gas is still working on gas lines down Demarest Road into Fiddlers Way and Violet Trail and they are still working on easements with Mr. Khilstrom to bring the gas line through his property.

Mr. Hughes said the generator at the firehouse should be installed within the next four weeks.

Mr. O’Leary said the D.O.T. has started their resurfacing project, which included adding some sidewalks.

Mr. Hughes said Harmony has started work on Building 6 and the projected completion date is sometime in June.

Economic Development:

No report was given.

BILLS: List #4

Mr. Leuthe went over the bills with the Board. There was a discussion on the lateness of some of the bills from Laddey, Clark & Ryan.

A motion to pay the bills as presented and contingent upon the CFO verifying funds are available, was made by Mr. Hughes. It was seconded by Mr. O’Leary and passed with a roll call vote. Roll Call: Richard Hughes – yes, George untick – abstain, Kevin O’Leary – yes, Donald Leuthe – yes, Susanne Van Sickle – yes, Warren Potter – yes, Thomas Madewell – yes, Tamarith Deller – yes, Robert Taylor - yes.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Pizzulo
Land Use Board Secretary