

**HARDWICK TOWNSHIP
PLANNING/LAND USE BOARD MINUTES
OCTOBER 10, 2024**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman McKim at 7:00 pm.

FLAG SALUTE:

Chairman McKim Read the following statement:

“Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, P.L. 1975, Notice of this meeting was posted on the township website and on the bulletin board of the municipal building at 40 Spring Valley Road”.

ROLL CALL:

Cynthia Caffrey, William Hughes, Nichole Meuse (arrived at 7:10 pm) Christina Suyker, John Liegner, Mayor Jacksic and Jim McKim were present. Also present were Board Attorney Glenn Gavan. Fred Butcher, Lori, Gold, and Ty Coronato were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

July 11, 2024, Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Jacksic, second by Liegner and approved by roll call vote: Butcher—absent, Caffrey—yes, Gold—absent, Hughes—abstain, Meuse absent, Suyker—yes, Liegner—yes, Coronato—absent, Jacksic—yes, McKim—yes, to approve the July 11, 2024, Meeting Minutes.

September 12, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Jacksic, second by Caffrey and approved by roll call vote: Butcher—absent, Caffrey—yes, Gold—absent, Hughes—yes, Meuse absent, Suyker—yes, Liegner—yes, Coronato—absent, Jacksic—yes, McKim—yes to approve the September 12, 2024, Meeting Minutes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Township Ordinance 2024-05

Ordinance of The Township of Hardwick, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, Creating Chapter 40 Entitled “Tree Removal and Replacement” Establishing Certain Rules and Regulations Related to the Removal and Replacement of Certain Qualifying Trees, as Required by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Brief Discussion took place regarding documents that were sent out to the board prior to the meeting including a draft amended tree ordinance to present to the township committee if board agrees.

Board Member Suyker had no comment.

Mayor Jacksic stated that the ordinance should be amended to mimic Blairstown Township. Board Member Liegner questioned why the State lightened up on the restrictions of the ordinance. Board Member Liegner also questioned the fees and conditions. Board Attorney Gavan stated that there is a general penalty in all ordinances even if it is not listed in an ordinance.

Board Member Caffrey stated that she found the tree fund interesting if a resident chooses not to replant a tree but rather put money into the tree fund which currently would go to Hardwick Township. It was discussed that there needs to be clarification on what the funds will be used for. The board agreed to utilize the funds for maintenance on municipal land. Board Member Caffrey asked where the penalty money would go, and it was stated that a portion goes to the township the rest goes to the state.

Co-Chair Hughes thanked Chairman McKim for all his work.

Board Member Meuse stated that she would like to follow Blairstown Township ordinance.

All board members agreed to have the draft ordinance presented to the township committee for review and possible amendment of the tree ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business.

MEMORIALIZING RESOLUTIONS:

Application No. 2024-01 IN THE MATTER OF Joseph McEvoy LAND DEVELOPMENT w/ C Variances APPLICATION BLOCK 1102, LOT 13.

Motion made by Liegner, second by Jacksic and approved by roll call vote: Butcher—absent, Caffrey—yes, Gold—absent, Hughes—abstain, Meuse absent, Suyker—yes, Liegner—yes, Coronato—absent, Jacksic—yes, McKim—yes.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mayor Jacksic reported that the county has received 6 bids for the Spring Valley Bridge project.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Motion made by Hughes, second by Caffrey and carried to open the meeting to the public.

Members of the public attended the meeting to stay informed.

Motion made by Hughes, second by Caffrey and carried to close public comment.

CORRESPONDENCE:

No Correspondence.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

No Bills'

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Jacksic, second by Meuse and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Shipps, LUB Secretary