

Minutes

Leonia Planning Board

Wednesday May 27, 2020

7:30 p.m.

Remote meeting-telephonic

Members present: Mayor Zeigler, Mr. Wolf, Mr. Russell, Councilman Fusco, Chairman DeGidio, Vice Chairman Petti, Mr. Ford, Mr. Botten, Mr. Thompson, Ms. Stewart

Members absent: Mr. Gold, Mr. Ko

Also present: Mr. Costa, Ms. Evans, Mr. Melfi, Attorney Steinhagen

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Call to order, reading of open meeting statement, flag salute

Minutes:

Motion to waive the reading of the March 25th minutes: Vice Chairman Petti Second: Mr. Russell

Motion passes

Motion to approve the minutes of March 25th: Mr. Botten Second: Mr. Russell
Passed by a vote of 7 yes (Zeigler, Russell, Fusco, DeGidio, Petti, Botten, Thompson)
0 no

Motion to waive the reading of the May 6th minutes: Vice Chairman Petti Second: Mr. Russell
Motion passes

Motion to approve the minutes of May 6th: Mr. Ford Second: Mr. Wolf
Passed by a vote of 8 yes (Zeigler, Wolf, Russell, Fusco, DeGidio, Petti, Ford, Thompson)
0 no

Discussion:

Master Plan Re-Examination- Discussion with H2M
Proposed Borough Ordinance 2020-06-Discussion with H2M

Jeffrey L. Janota, representing H2M addressed the board about Proposed Borough Ordinance 2020-06. H2M undertook parcel mapping and aerial maps of residential neighborhoods for preliminary assessments. They will need to review and look at the number of homes that might be affected by any changes taking place. It was noted that if the definition for height is revised to regulate the height for accessory structures it would affect a larger number of residents seeking permits for decks, additions etc. The Ordinance, as introduced limited coverage of lot area, but that was not a firm limit. There was also a discussion regarding homes with detached garages and making allowances for those homes. The board determined that the change from 65% to 40% might be too extreme and instead decided to recommend to Borough Council that the coverage limit be set initially to 50% of lot area and that If the changes are implemented the building department should track variance requests for one year and review the applications to see if there was a trend towards homeowners needing variances, whether the 50% limit was appropriate , or if it should be further reduced. . The meeting was opened to the public for questions and or comments. Hearing no one the public portion of the meeting for questions and comments was then closed.

At this time, there was a motion by Mr. Botten to adjourn the meeting. There was a second by Mr. Russell. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Evans
Recording Secretary