

## MINUTES

### PLANNING BOARD

#### TOWNSHIP OF BERKELEY HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY

#### Re-Organization Meeting

January 8, 2014

The Reorganization Meeting of the Planning Board was called to order at 7:30 PM by Regina Giardina in the Public Meeting Room.

Mrs. Giardina confirmed that the meeting was being held in conformance with all regulations of the SUNSHINE LAW and proper notice had been given to the Courier News; also, the Agenda had been posted in Town Hall, Board Office, and supplied to the Township Clerk at least forty-eight hours prior to the meeting. The Agenda items will not necessarily be heard in the order listed and the meeting will not continue significantly past 10:30 PM.

#### Roll Call:

Members present were Mr. Johnson, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Graziano and Mr. Russo.

#### Oath of Office

The oath of office was administered to the following members:

Mr. Michael Einbinder – 4-year term to end 12/31/2017  
Mr. Richard Niceforo – 4-year term to end 12/31/2017  
Mr. Kevin Hall – T.C. Rep – 1-year term to end 12/31/14  
Mr. Robert Bocchino – Town Official – 1-year term to end 12/31/14

#### Roll Call:

Members present were Mr. Einbinder, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Niceforo, Mr. Graziano, Mr. Hall, Mr. Russo and Mr. Bocchino. Mr. Albert Cruz, substituting for Board Attorney Michael Cresitello, and Thomas Solfaro, Board Engineer, were also present.

#### Reorganization

#### Election of Officers

Michael Einbinder was nominated as Chairman on the motion of Mr. Graziano, seconded by Mr. Bruno. There were no other nominations and Mr. Einbinder was elected Chairman by unanimous roll call vote.

**Reorganization continued**

Craig Johnson was nominated as Vice Chairman on the motion of Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Graziano. There were no other nominations and Mr. Johnson was elected Vice Chairman by unanimous roll call vote.

The firm of Schulman, Wiegmann & Associates was designated as Court Reporter, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Bruno, and carried by unanimous voice vote.

The Courier and The Star Ledger were designated as Official Newspapers, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Graziano, and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Regina Giardina was designated to provide Secretarial Services, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Bruno, and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Connie Valenti was designated as Planning Board Secretary, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Bruno, and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Connie Valenti was designated as Escrow Official, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Bruno, and carried by unanimous voice vote.

The 2014 Meeting Schedule was approved, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Bruno, and carried by unanimous voice vote .

**Executive Session**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. for the discussion of the attorney and engineer appointments on the motion of Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried by unanimous voice vote.

The Board returned to Public Session at 7:50 p.m. on the motion of Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Graziano and carried by unanimous voice vote.

**Reorganization continued**

Michael V. Cresitello of the firm of DiFrancesco, Bateman, Coley, Yospin, Kunzman, Davis and Lehrer was designated as Board Attorney, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Graziano, and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Thomas Solfaro of the firm of Neglia Engineering was designated as Board Engineer, and the Resolution memorializing the same was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Bruno, and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**Referral:**

Township Council Resolution No. 271-2013 authorizing the Planning Board to undertake a preliminary investigation of the Municipal property as a Non-Condensation Redevelopment Area.

Mr. Einbinder announced that this matter will be tabled and carried to the next meeting of the Board scheduled on January 22, 2014 due to recusal of four members of the Board who are members of Little Flower Church. The report from Mr. Mistretta will be heard at the next meeting when a quorum of eligible Board members will be present.

Mr. Cruz advised that the Planning Board considered the Referral at the December 4, 2013 meeting of the Board but it was determined that four members of the Board (Mr. Bruno, Mr. Hall, Mr. Graziano and Mr. Russo) have a potential conflict of interest. As a result the referral from the Council was placed back on the agenda for consideration by the non-conflicted members. However, because of several absences there is not a sufficient number of members present this evening to hear the report on this matter and so it will be carried to the January 22, 2014 meeting.

**Adoption of Minutes:**

Regular Meeting December 4, 2013

A motion was made by Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Bruno, to adopt the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 4, 2013 as presented. The voice vote was unanimous.

**Adjournment:**

A Motion was made by Mr. Einbinder, seconded by Mr. Hall, to adjourn the meeting. The voice vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Regina Giardina, Secretary Pro-Tem