

BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD

Reorganization & Regular Virtual Online Meeting

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

—MINUTES—

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Mr. Fross called the Virtual Online Planning Board Meeting to order at 7:00 pm via Virtual Ring Central platform.

For the duration of the Coronavirus Health Emergency, meetings will be held digitally, connected by conferencing software provided by RingCentral.com. Members of the public are invited to view meetings live using RingCentral webinar, which also allows them to “raise a hand” and contribute when they are invited to do so during public portions of the meeting. Instructions for Virtual online meeting:

1. Download RingCentral meetings on preferred device: <https://www.ringcentral.com/apps/rc-meetings>
2. At the advertised start time of the meeting, enter: <https://webinar.ringcentral.com/j/1485944342> into your browser. **This method allows listening & participation.*

Please Note: You may also join via telephone: Dial: +1(646)-357-3664, Webinar ID: 1485944342 **telephone access allows only listening and not participation.* If you would like to ask a question, you can do so via audio and video through [RingCentral.com](https://www.ringcentral.com), just audio via [RingCentral.com](https://www.ringcentral.com), or via text 1(908) 912-4247 with name, contact information, and the questions for the Applicant’s witness or the Board and the questions will be read into the record.

2. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT ANNOUNCEMENT:

Both adequate and electronic notice of this meeting specifying the time, place, and manner in which such notice was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, and recently enacted Emergency Remote Meeting Protocols for Local Public Bodies, N.J.A.C. 5:39-1, et seq. Specifically, on **December 28, 2020**, proper notice was sent to the Courier News and the Star-Ledger and filed with the Clerk at the Township of Bridgewater, and posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building. Public meetings are held with participants at remote locations, connected by conferencing software provided by RingCentral.com. Members of the public are invited to attend and participate in live meetings either by using the RingCentral client, which allows audio and video participation, or by phoning into a meeting for audio-only participation. The required access information is provided in the notice and set forth on the agenda.

The procedures and requirements for making public comment are as follows: Attendees are admitted to meetings via the waiting room, and microphones are muted until enabled by the host. Members of the public may participate in meetings at certain designated times as announced by the Board Chair. Members of the public will be allowed to address applicants and their experts, ask questions, and/or make comments as appropriate once recognized to do so. Attendees may request to be heard by 'raising a hand', either physically or virtually. Hearing Assistance is available upon request. Accommodation will be made for individuals with a disability, pursuant to the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), provided the individual with the disability provides 48 hours advance notice to the Planning Department Secretary before the public meeting.” However, if the individual should require special equipment or services, such as a CART transcriber, seven days advance notice, excluding weekends and holidays, may be necessary.

Regulation of conduct by members of the public on the remote public meeting shall be consistent with law and practices followed if a member of the public disrupts an in-person meeting. Specifically, if a member of the public becomes disruptive during any period for public comment, the member of the public shall be muted and warned that continued disruption may result in him or her being prevented from speaking during the remote public meeting or removed from the remote public meeting.

Disruptive conduct includes sustained inappropriate behaviors, such as, but not necessarily limited to, shouting, interruption, and use of profanity. A member of the public who continues to act in a disruptive manner after receiving a warning may be muted while other members of the public are allowed to proceed with their questions or comments. If time permits, the disruptive individual shall be allowed to speak after all other members of the public have been given the opportunity to make their comment. Should the person remain disruptive, the individual may be muted or kept on mute for the remainder of the remote public meeting, or removed from the remote public meeting.

Please be aware of the Board policy for public hearings: No new applications will be heard after 10:00 pm, and no new testimony will be taken after 10:15 pm.

3. SALUTE TO FLAG:

4. OATH OF OFFICE:

4a. Class I: Mayors Alternate – Thomas M. Genova Exp; 12/31/2021

4b. Class II: Michael Pappas Exp; 12/31/2021

4c. Class III: Michael Kirsh (Council Appointment) Exp; 12/31/2021

4d. Class IV: Maurizio Vescio Exp; 12/31/24

4e. Class IV: Kimberly Forino (Environmental Commission Liason) Exp; 12/31/22

4f. Class Alternate I: Lauren Zarro 12/31/22

4g. Class Alternate II: Vacant Exp; 12/31/21

5. ROLL CALL:

Mr. Michael Pappas – present	Councilman Mr. Kirsh – present
Mr. Henry Wang – present	Mr. Robert Giurlando – present
Mayor Moench – present	Ms. Lauren Zarro– present
Mr. Alan Fross – present	Mr. Maurizio Vescio – present
Mr. James Magura – present	Ms. Kimberly Forino– present
Mr. Thomas Genova- present	

Others present: Attorney Mr. Mark Peck, Esq., Planner Ms. Scarlett Doyle, PP, Engineer Mr. William Burr, IV, PE and Land Use Coordinator Ms. Zuzana Karas.

6. RESOLUTIONS FOR REORGANIZATION:

6a. Election of Chairman

The meeting was turned over to attorney Mr. Mark Peck, Esq., who asked the board for a nomination for the board's chairman position for 2021.

Mayor Moench made a nomination to elect Mr. Alan Fross, with a second made by Mr. Pappas followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mayor Moench, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Vescio, Mr. Magura and Ms. Forino

ABSENT: None

(The meeting was handed back over to the appointed chair, Mr. Fross.)

6b. Election of Vice-Chairman

Chairman Mr. Fross asked the board for a nomination for the board's vice-chairman position for 2021.

Mayor Moench made a nomination to elect Mr. Vescio, with a second made by Mr. Pappas followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mayor Moench, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Vescio, Mr. Magura and Ms. Forino

ABSENT: None

6c. Appointment of Board Secretary

Chairman Mr. Fross asked the board for a nomination for the board secretary position for 2021.

Chairman Fross made a nomination to elect Ms. Scarlett Doyle, with a second made by Mr. Vescio followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mayor Moench, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Vescio, Mr. Magura and Ms. Forino

ABSENT: None

6d. Appointment of Assistant Board Secretary

Chairman Mr. Fross asked the board for a nomination for the assistant board secretary position for 2021.

Mayor Moench made a nomination to elect Ms. Zuzana Karas, with a second made by Ms. Forino followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mayor Moench, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Vescio, Mr. Magura and Ms. Forino

ABSENT: None

6e. Appointment of Board/Service Professionals:i. Board Attorney – Mark R. Peck, Esq.

Chairman Mr. Fross asked the board for a nomination for the board attorney position for 2021.

Mayor Moench made a nomination to elect Mr. Mark R. Peck, Esq., with a second made by Mr. Pappas followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mayor Moench, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Vescio, Mr. Magura and Ms. Forino

ABSENT: None

ii. Board Engineer – William Burr IV, P.E.

Chairman Mr. Fross asked the board to nominate the board engineer position for 2021.

Chairman Mr. Fross made a nomination to elect Mr. William Burr IV, P.E., with a second made by Mr. Vescio followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mayor Moench, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Vescio, Mr. Magura and Ms. Forino

ABSENT: None

iii. Board Planner – Scarlett Doyle, P.P.

Chairman Mr. Fross asked the board to nominate the board planner position for 2021.

Mayor Moench made a nomination to elect Ms. Scarlett Doyle, P.P., with a second made by Mr. Pappas followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mayor Moench, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Vescio, Mr. Magura and Ms. Forino

ABSENT: None

6f. Designation of Meeting Dates, Time, and Place

Chairman Fross asked if any comments would like to be made regarding any of the meeting dates listed on the resolution. Mr. Kirsh advised that on June 8th the primary elections will be held and for the board to be mindful of that date as it approaches closer. Mayor Moench announced that it'd be best to have that meeting date removed.

Chairman Fross asked for a motion to approve the Designated of Meeting Dates, Time, and Place with the removal of June 8th. Mayor Moench made a motion with a second by Mr. Wang followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mayor Moench, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Vescio, Mr. Magura and Ms. Forino

ABSENT: None

6g. Designation of Official Newspapers

Chairman Fross advised that the designated newspapers will remain as the ‘Star Ledger’ and ‘Courier News’ in 2021. The board discussed the legal requirements for posting to newspapers after a question was raised about posting electronically.

Chairman Fross asked for a motion to approve the Designation of Official Newspapers.

Mr. Kirsh made a motion with a second by Mr. Vescio followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mayor Moench, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Vescio, Mr. Magura and Ms. Forino

7. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES:

Chairman Fross asked if any changes or comments needed to be made to the minutes from the meeting dates of September 8th, 2020, October 27th, 2020, and November 24th, 2020. No changes/comments were made. (The minutes from the December 8th, 2020 meeting remained pending.)

September 8th, 2020, Virtual Online Regular Meeting

Chairman Fross asked for a motion to approved the minutes from the September 8th, 2020 meeting.

Mr. Pappas made a motion with a second made by Ms. Forino followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mayor Moench, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Vescio, Mr. Magura, Ms. Zarro, and Ms. Forino

October 27th, 2020, Virtual Online Regular Meeting

Chairman Fross asked for a motion to approved the minutes from the October 27th, 2020 meeting.

Mr. Vescio made a motion with a second made by Mr. Wang followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Vescio, Mr. Magura, Ms. Zarro, and Ms. Forino

Abstain: Mayor Moench

November 24th, 2020, Virtual Online Regular Meeting

Chairman Fross asked for a motion to approved the minutes from the November 24th, 2020 meeting.

Mr. Pappas made a motion with a second made by Mr. Kirsh followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mayor Moench, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Magura, and Ms. Forino

Abstain: Mr. Vescio and Ms. Zarro

8. MEMORIALIZATION OF RESOLUTION:**THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET - 1711 WASHINGTON VALLEY RD -****Adoption of Dismissal at the request of the applicant**

Block 906 Lot 19

App# 20-009-PB - MINOR SUBDIVISION

Chairman Fross advised the board that the applicant had requested this dismissal, as they are now voluntarily withdrawing the application. No comments and questions were asked.

Motion for approval was made by Mayor Moench and second by Mr. Vescio, followed by a roll call vote:

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Pappas, Mr. Wang, Mayor Moench, Mr. Fross, Mr. Kirsh, Mr. Giurlando, Mr. Magura, Mr. Vescio, and Ms. Forino

9. LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION:**10. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

Members of the public wishing to address the Board on any matter not listed on the agenda were able to do so at this time. Please note that in accordance with the Municipal Land Use Law and Case Law,

any questions or comments about a pending application must be made in the hearing on that specific application.

No members of the public addressed the Board.

11. OTHER BOARD BUSINESS:

Chairman Fross advised the board that the next Planning Board meeting would be scheduled for January 26th, 2021. The applications set for that date were also outlined in brief.

The chairman also informed the board that Ms. Doyle was in the hospital going through some medical issues and asked everyone to keep her in their thoughts.

Mayor Moench thanked everyone for their dedication to the planning board through their time and service. His appreciation to all the board members and board professionals was expressed. He also stated that he plans to have a session set up, with the help of Mr. Peck, to get everyone brushed up on land use matters.

There was no other Board business to be discussed.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No Executive Session was needed.

13. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Mr. Pappas and second by Mr. Kirsch to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 pm, followed by a consensus of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Ms. Zuzana Karas
Land Use Coordinator