

## Newton Planning Board Public Meeting Minutes January 25, 2022



The Newton Planning Board public meeting was called to order at: 7:08PM

Present were: members Mr. Andrews, Mr. LaVoie, Mr. Moran, Ms. Collyer, Alternate Mr. Marchand, also James Doggett – PB AA

Via Zoom was Member Ms. White and Ms. Rowden - Circuit Rider

Chairman led the salute to the Flag.

Chairman Andrews appointed Mr. Marchand as a voting member for the excused Mr. White.

## 1. Board Business

**A.** Acceptance of minutes of the 1/11/22 meeting

Mr. LaVoie **MOVED** to accept the minutes as printed; Mr. Moran seconded the motion.

Mr. Andrews asked Administrative Assistant Doggett to call the roll:

Mr. Andrews - Aye Mr. LaVoie – Aye Mr. Moran - Aye Ms. Collyer – Aye Ms. White – Aye Mr. Marchand – Aye **UNAMINOUS** vote

**B.** NPREA Manifest

Ms. White **MOVED** to pay the manifest dated 1/25/2022 in the amount of \$ 199.96, Mr. Marchand seconded the motion.

Mr. Marchand asked why there were 2 travel related items on the manifest for \$5.16 and a single item for \$10.36.

A.A. Doggett replied that on one trip he recorded 2 items, so they split the milage and on the second one there was just one item being recorded so they were charged the entire milage cost.

<u>Planning Board Minutes January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 / Planning Board Meeting</u> All minutes are in unapproved form until approved by the Planning Board. Please check subsequent minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes. 1 Mr. Andrews asked Administrative Assistant Doggett to call the roll:

Mr. Andrews - Aye Mr. LaVoie – Aye Mr. Moran - Aye Ms. White – Aye Mr. Marchand – Aye **UNAMINOUS** vote

## **C.** Board Communications

Mr. Andrews asked Mr. Marchand if he asked to have this item added to the agenda was to discuss the role of the Administrative Assistant.

Mr. Marchand commented that he was, sometimes, unaware of items that had happened, only learning of them when he arrived at the meetings. He asked if there was a way to have things be more transparent with more information given to the Board members.

Mr. Andrews asked Ms. Rowden to give her input

Ms. Rowden opined of the different levels of communications and who should be notified for each.

Mr. Moran commented that too much outside communications give the perception of the Board holding "secret" meetings.

Ms. Rowden reminded the board that any Board member who comments publicly on an upcoming application that they would be showing a bias towards the application and should recuse themselves when the application came before the Board. This could put any decision on the application in legal jeopardy.

Mr. Marchand would like to see everyone being on the same page when in meeting.

The Board discussed the issue at length.

Chairman Andrews mentioned the Fire Chief's email about his denial of the last application and explained the outcome of his discussions with the Building Inspector.

The Board discussed the issue at length.

A.A. Doggett brought up his observation that there are many applications for Home-Based Business that have no client visitors, no signage, no outdoor storage.

The Board discussed the issue and directed the A.A. to devise a solution and bring it to the Board.

Mr. Andrews brought up Ms. Collyer's request for a non-public under 91-A:3,II (a) (employee complaint). He determined that the request was to possibly refine the A.A.'s

<u>Planning Board Minutes January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 / Planning Board Meeting</u> All minutes are in unapproved form until approved by the Planning Board. Please check subsequent minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes. 2 job description. He opined that such discussions were not a subject for a non-public meeting and therefore he was dropping the second non-public meeting from the agenda and asked the board to give input at this stage in the meeting.

Board members gave input on the subject. A.A. Doggett will send Board members the A.A. job description.

- **D.** Non-public 91-A:3,II(e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation
- **a.** Mr. Moran **MOVED** to go into Non-public 91-A:3,II(e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation; Mr. LaVoie seconded the motion.

Mr. Andrews asked Administrative Assistant Doggett to call the roll:

Mr. Andrews - Aye Mr. LaVoie – Aye Mr. Moran - Aye Ms. White – Aye Mr. Marchand – Aye **UNAMINOUS** vote

Chairman Andrews invited Ms. Rowden to attend the non-public meeting.

The Board entered Non-Public at 8:06

The Board came out of Non-Public at 8:26

Mr. LaVoie **MOVED** to Seal the minutes of the non-public meeting until such time as a majority of the Board feels it is wise or prudent to unseal them. Mr. Moran seconded the motion

Mr. Andrews asked Administrative Assistant Doggett to call the roll:

Mr. Andrews - Aye Mr. LaVoie - Aye Mr. Moran - Aye Ms. White - Aye Mr. Marchand - Aye **UNAMINOUS** vote

## 3. Adjourn.

Mr. Andrews adjourned the meeting at 8:29PM

Respectfully Submitted,

James L. Doggett, AA Newton Planning Board