January 21, 2020

In the absence of Chair Carellas, Vice-Chair Crowe called the regular meeting of the Westfield Planning Board to order at 7:00pm in the City Council Chambers, 59 Court St, Westfield, MA.

PB MEMBERS PRESENT    STAFF
X William Carellas, Chair    X Jay Vinskey, Principal Planner
X Cheryl Crowe, Vice-Chair    X Christine Fedora, Secretary
X Robert Goyette
X Jane Magarian
X Philip McEwan
X Raymond St. Hilaire
X John Bowen
X Bernard Puza (Associate)
X Richard Salois (Associate)

A. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (on any matter not the subject of a public hearing)
Acting Chair Crowe asked if there was anyone in the room who would like to address the Board.

Richard Salois –informed the Board he was not satisfied with the Water Department's response and asked a chemist (Kristen Mello, who was present) to review the Roots water test; he distributed an email response from her to the Board.

B. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (1/7/20)
The minutes of 1/7/20 were on the share file but had not been emailed in advance. After an unseconded motion to approve, the Board decided to postpone the matter to the next meeting.

C. Review of plans not requiring approval under Subdivision Control Law.
   • 49 Feeding Hills Rd./Liljedahl & Pappas
Planner Vinskey stated this plan is dividing a lot into 3, each with sufficient frontage. He noted there was a PDF version of the plan only (which superseded the mylars received) and was still waiting for the actual updated mylars. If the Board is OK, it can be voted now and signed when the plans come in. Member Goyette MOTIONED, seconded by Member Magarian to approve the A.N.R. All in favor.

D. Posted Public Hearings
   • Continuation – Special Permit/Site Plan/Stormwater Permit Amendment – 141 Springfield Rd. (Walmart) – add grocery pick up.
It was noted that the Chair’s absence leaves only 6 eligible members. At the applicant’s request, Member Magarian MOTIONED, seconded by Member Salois to continue to February 4, 2020. All in favor.

E. Other Business

- 181 Root Road (Roots Athletic Center) – lighting compliance review

Planner Vinskey informed the Board that he found out yesterday that Mr. DeMarinis (whose presence was expected) will be about of town until Wednesday. The Board decided to include this matter on the February 4 agenda.

- Update on Planning Board’s zoning amendment proposals - 500’ buffer from parks for marijuana facilities (2nd submission), Grading/site plans required as part of a building permit

Planner Vinskey noted that these are both set to lapse on Feb. 5, as Council has not taken action within the 90-day window. Member Magarian asked if the 90 days could be extended? Vinskey replied no, the whole process would need to start over. The Board decided to resubmit both petitions to the City Council. Vinskey noted they would go in for City Council’s February 6 meeting.

- Annual Election/Designation of Officers & Representatives (effective 2/3/20)

Chair (currently Carellas) -Crowe read from an email from Chair Carellas, expressing willingness in continuing as Chair for another year. On a motion by McEwan, seconded by Goyette, Carellas nominated for Chair. With no other nominations, all were recorded in favor.

Vice Chair/Clerk (currently Crowe) On a motion by Magarian, seconded by Goyette, Crowe was nominated. With no other nominations, all were recorded in favor.

Representative to Community Preservation Committee (currently Crowe); Alternate to Community Preservation Committee (currently Bowen). Members Bowen and Salois volunteered to serve as Representative and Alternate, respectively and were unanimously voted by the Board.

Commissioner to the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (currently Carellas). Vinskey noted Carellas was content to give up this role. Puza volunteered and was unanimously endorsed for Commissioner.

Persons authorized to sign ANR plans (currently Magarian, Goyette). Same were unanimously selected to continue.

Members authorized to sign bills/schedules (currently Carellas, Crowe). The Board was advised and agreed that these follow the Chair/Vice Chair positions and same would continue.

F. Announcements/Future Agenda Items

Acting Chair Crowe reminded members to complete the conflict of interest training forms.
Member Salois asked if there were questions on the Roots water test and it was suggested the matter be discussed Feb. 4. Vinskey said he could collect any questions from the members and forward to Ms. Mello in advance of the next meeting.

Puza inquired as to the master plan effort status. Vinskey noted the Board’s desire to pursue this is clear; the Mayor seemed supportive for funding, but had not been formally approached.

Acting Chair Crowe mentioned she attended a Community Development hearing, found it interesting and has information she can forward.

Acting Chair Crowe suggested members plan to meet socially following the Feb. 4 meeting, since they were unable to get together during the holidays. Member St. Hilaire stated he would absent Feb. 4.

Member Puza motioned to adjourn, seconded by Magarian, at 7:25. All in favor.