

## **JUNE 20, 2011**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mansfield Township Land Use Board was called to order by Chairman John Barton at 7:30 PM.

The meeting was opened by stating that adequate notice of this public meeting had been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by:

1. posting a notice of this regular meeting on the bulletin board of the Municipal Building;
2. causing said notice to be published in The Star Gazette;
3. furnishing said notice to those persons requesting it pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act; and
4. filing said notice with the Township Clerk.

Present: Barton, Mayor Tomaszewski, Watters, Mannon, Vaezi, Mills, Hight, Smith.

Absent: Myers, Hazen, Creedon, Spender.

Also present: William Edleston, Esquire; Drew DiSessa, P.E.

Regarding the minutes of the May 16, 2011 meeting, DiSessa (via email) amended the minutes by changing the word *approved* in the first line of page three to read **improved**.

**MOTION** was made by **MILLS** to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2011 meeting, as amended.

**SECONDED: MAYOR TOMASZEWSKI.**

Those in favor: Mayor Tomaszewski, Watters, Mannon, Mills, Hight, Barton.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: Vaezi, Smith.

**MOTION** was made by **HIGHT** to approve the resolution for Case #11-05, Leonid Afonkin, as written.

**SECONDED: MANNON.**

Those in favor: Watters, Mannon, Mills, Hight, Mayor Tomaszewski, Barton.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: None.

**MOTION** was made by **VAEZI** to authorize the Township Committee to pay the invoices submitted by the professionals.

**SECONDED: HIGHT.**

Those in favor: Mannon, Vaezi, Mills, Hight, Smith, Mayor Tomaszewski, Watters, Barton.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: None.

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Vaezi asked if Mansfield Township was the only Township in the county to not opt in to the Highlands. Watters stated there is no advantage for Mansfield Township to opt in, and Mansfield Township has not been approached by the Highlands people. Watters stated that Hackettstown and Independence finally agreed to opt in, but are now having issues.

Barton mentioned the letter received from the Heritage Conservancy. Barton stated the conservancy has purchased land, but not allowed farmers to farm the land. Barton indicated there is no upside to providing support.

Vaezi indicated he was in favor of supporting the theory of the matter, but was concerned with the strings attached and the ramifications.

Watters stated he wasn't in favor of their purchasing additional land with our money, and not allowing anything to be done with it.

Watters raised the issue of the bridge on Hazen Road (Hance's Bridge), and explained the bridge was never taken over by the County. Watters indicated the bridge is now the responsibility of the Township. DiSessa should apply every year for state funding, and hopefully the Township will be in line to receive some dollars.

The discussion returned to the letter received from the Heritage Conservancy.

**MOTION** was made by **MANNON** to write a letter indicating the Mansfield Township Planning Board is not willing to support the Heritage Conservancy project, because it adversely affects the Township financially.

**SECONDED: MAYOR TOMASZEWSKI.**

Those in favor: Vaezi, Mills, Hight, Mayor Tomaszewski, Watters, Mannon, Barton.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: Smith.

Smith stated the letter from the Conservancy is nebulous, at best, and they should appear before the board to explain their proposal.

**MOTION** was made by **MANNON** to contact the Conservancy to supply some dates for them to appear.

**SECONDED: VAEZI.**

Those in favor: Mills, Hight, Smith, Mayor Tomaszewski, Watters, Mannon, Vaezi, Barton.

Opposed: None.

Abstained: None.

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Barton stated he would contact Jeffrey Marshall, and explain the board's position and request their appearance.

Watters indicated that he, and Councilman Brad Smith, is formulating a subcommittee to investigate a possible solar project for the municipal property. Watters suggested a member of the Planning Board to be a part of the subcommittee. Watters also indicated they would be investigating the possibility in installing a generator for the OEM office. Smith volunteered to be the Planning Board representative on the subcommittee.

**MOTION** was made by **BARTON** to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM.

**SECONDED: VAEZI.**

Voice vote: ALL IN FAVOR.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia D. Zotti, Clerk  
(as written)