

Affordable Housing Board Meeting
Thursday, June 20, 2013

The following are the minutes of the Affordable Housing Board meeting, which was held on Thursday, June 20, 2013 in the Community Development Conference Room, located in the Lawrence Township Municipal Building.

Statement of Proper Notice

Adequate notice of the regular meeting of the Lawrence Township Affordable Housing Board has been provided by filing an annual meeting schedule with the Municipal Clerk, and by filing the agenda with the Municipal Clerk, posting prominently in the Municipal Building, and mailing to the Trenton Times, the Trentonian and the Lawrence Ledger.

Opening of Meeting/Roll Call (6:34 p.m.):

Present: Peter Ferrone, Susan McCloskey, Kevin VanHise, Walker Ristau, Jean Washington

Absent: James Kownacki, Mayor (Council Liaison)

Excused Absence: William Capell, John Masso, J. Andrew Link, Principal Planner

Also Present: Susan Snook, Secretary

II. Approval of Minutes:

The May 16, 2013 minutes were approved as submitted by unanimous vote.

III. General Public Comment:

None

IV. Hardship Waiver Procedure Discussion:

Chairperson VanHise stated he did not get an opportunity to discuss things with Mr. Link.

V. Status of Changes at State Level:

A meeting was held the third week of May and the Advocacy and municipalities filed an application to "stay" for the COAH seizure of funds. The state filed an application because no one filed an appeal. The State filed a notice to the Supreme Court because of the "stay" and the Supreme Court issued a letter to lift the stay for COAH to collect information and leave the stay in place or seize the monies. COAH waited to the last minute and had certain time frames and a new what they were going to do.

On June 7, 2013 a letter was issued stating the opinion and basically are modifying the letters and will send out new letters to the Municipalities and all on the service list and give them time to respond; however, no one received the letter. Basically it was to account for all the revenues for the State budget.

Ms. Washington asked what the amount of monies that might be seized from the Township. Chairperson VanHise stated about 1.3 million and is different throughout the different municipalities. The Supreme Court will issue the third round rules, hopefully by August.

VI. Other Business:

Ms. Phyllis Redd, owner of 20 J. Russel Smith Road, a three-bedroom moderate unit which is up for sale. She contacted the Township and she was given the three bedroom list; however, she knocked out a wall because her furniture would not fit. She was informed that the wall had to be rebuilt because it is classified as a three bedroom. Her response was it is going to be difficult. She also stated she was never told about the rules, see attached from Clarke Caton & Hintz. I had a discussion with Mr. Krawczun, who stated the wall had to be re-built and the information should be given to the Affordable Housing Board to discuss. The Board stated the wall needs to be re-built to make it a three bedroom unit and it should be put back into the way she purchased the unit.

Chairperson VanHise discussed with the Board members the resale of Mrs. Philippi affordable unit in Lawrence Square Village, see attached e-mail dated June 12, 2013. Ms. Philippi stated she would attend the July 18, 2013 to discuss some matters with Board.

VII. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m. The next meeting will be held on July 18, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Susan Snook
Secretary

SJS
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