

Planning Board Meeting

August 17, 2020

Minutes

Members Present: Chairman Allen Swaim, Levin Jones, Jimmena Huffman-Hall, Jonathan Olson, Brett Hennington, Ryan Zakany, & Deans Eatman and Cande Killian Wood attended virtually.

Members Absent: Michael Firstbrook

Staff Present: Niki Jones, Planning Director, Jeannine Ngwira & Linda Barbour

1. Meeting Called to Order

Chairman Swaim called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm and recognized that a quorum (minimum of 5 members) was present.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Adjustment and Approval of Agenda

Chairman Swaim asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Jonathan Olson made the motion and Deans Eatman seconded the motion. The Agenda was approved unanimously.

Chairman Swaim said he was glad this meeting is going to be a short one as we have had some really long ones lately.

3. Introduction of New Planning Director

4. Election of Planning Board Chairman & Vice Chairman

- Voting shall be conducted using a verbal nomination, followed by written ballot in which each member indicates whether they are in favor of the nomination.
- A candidate may nominate themselves or be nominated by others.
- The Chair and Vice-Chair serve 1-year terms but may be re-elected. Both positions may vote on all items.

5. Approval of the Minutes

5a. Wendell Planning Board minutes from June 15, 2020

POTENTIAL ACTION: Approval of the minutes

6. New Business

None

7. Old Business

None

3a Niki Jones introduced himself to the Planning Board.

- Niki said that he was born in Germany as his dad was in the military and went to college in Greenville, NC. He shared his previous work history with the Board. He said he now lives in Wendell. He said he wants to work in the town where he lives and wants to be part of the growth of the town.
- Chairman Swaim asked when his dad served?
- Niki said his father served from 1981 to 1991 in New Mexico and in Germany.
- Chairman asked what branch?
- Niki replied the Air Force.
- Jonathan said it is a big challenge to grow this town and the geography has to be bigger than today.
- Niki said Wendell will look much different in 30 years, in 20 years and even in 5 years. He said the next 5 years will be challenging.
- Chairman said developers keep bringing the same things to the Planning Board.
- Niki replied that diverse housing style is an important part of growth.

4. The Election of Planning Board Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Chairman Swaim asked for Nominations:

Jonathan Olson was nominated for Chairman by Brett Hennington

Ryan Zakany was nominated for Vice Chairman by Jimmena Huffman-Hall

The Ballots were collected and tallied by staff.

Jonathan Olson was voted in unanimously for Chairman of the Planning Board.

Ryan Zakany was voted in unanimously for Vice Chairman of the Planning Board.

Chairman Swaim gave the gavel to Jonathan Olson.

5a. Approval of the Minutes from June 15, 2020

Jonathan asked if the board had reviewed the minutes.

Deans Eatman made a motion to approve the minutes,

Brett Hennington seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

- Jonathan said we have had an interesting year so far and this is the beginning not the end. He said he is looking forward to the Blueprint. He said he saw some very detailed plans and hopes that we can look back at what we have done and be proud of it.
- Mr. Swaim said it's been 3 years and we're still here. He thanked everyone on the board and encouraged them all to review all sides of the issues and to be fair.

- Ryan thanked Mr. Swaim for his service and side he looks forward to working with him in the future. He also thanked Jimmena for nominating him for Vice Chairman.

Deans Eatman made a motion to adjourn, Brett Hennington seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.