

Berkshire Planning Board Meeting Notes

October 3, 2023- 6:30 pm

Members with term expirations:

Charles Ouellette- Chair	2026
Ken Ceurter- Vice Chair	2025
Nancy Lohmann- Secretary	2027
Sam Davison	2024
Mike Bobal	2023
Jim Lacey- Alternate	2023
open- Alternate	2023
open-TCPB	2023

Meeting was called to order at the Town Hall at 6:35 pm.

- Roll Call: Bobal, Ceurter, Davison, Lacey, Lohmann, and Ouellette were present. CEO Cheresnowski was also present.
- Secretary minutes for September meeting were provided and amended by email prior to the meeting. Ceurter made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Lacey. All Planning Board members present were in favor.

Town Board Meeting: Ceurter attended the Town Board meetings in September and emailed a summary of the meeting to PB members.

Of interest to the Planning Board:

- John Stoughton chaired the TB meeting. He stated that the three pending local laws have been sent to new law firm. Ceurter said he heard the laws have been deemed acceptable by the law firm and the TB should be moving ahead forward with the approval process.
- The CEO and County Health Department checked out a situation on Mill Street reported by a local resident. The Mill Street residents were told they need to get the septic pumped out and their progress will be rechecked. Junk and vehicles will also need to be followed up on later.
- The CEO reported that one trailer on north of town has been destroyed and another is being demolished. The CEO plans to keep abreast of this situation.
- Bill Spoonhower volunteered to retrieve the CEO law notebook from Chance Spoonhower so it will be available for use by the new CEO.
- Judge Olson reported that due to increased enforcement, her cases have picked up. She stated that she also sent out two summons to residents for clean up their properties.
- The Highway crew has been dealing with equipment issued but they continue to work preparing for fall and winter weather.
- Ceurter reported on the progress of the Special Events law. He also stated that the Planning Board would like to work with the CEO on forms needed by the township, as well as meet with a Sheriff Dept rep about their enforcement practices.

County Planning Board Meeting:

- There was no County Planning board meeting in September.

Unfinished Business:

- An alternate position on the Berkshire Planning Board remains open.
- Subdivision local law is still not recorded by DOS.
- The following local laws still have public hearings pending: Uniform Code, Solar, Right for Farm.
- Ceurter sent an edited version of the Special Events draft law to the Planning Board. The Planning Board reviewed this draft with the CEO and inquired as to the enforceability of the draft. Cheresnowski made a few suggestions and affirmed that he could see no problems with enforcement. When the final draft is completed, the final draft will be sent to him for further input.
- The Planning Board continued to discuss and edit the Special Events draft.
- Bobal is continuing to work on updating the town website. The Planning Board should be able to provide input at some point.
- The CEO has acquired a 4-drawer file cabinet that the PB and CEO can share. The CEO will deliver it and store it in the CEO office.

New Business:

- Lohmann will send the CEO the final Solar and Uniform Code laws.
- Lohmann will email newest Inservice NYS Sexual Harassment link to Planning Board members.
- Ceurter will contact Legislator Flesher about the empty County Planning Board seat.
- Ouellette will try again to get a representative from the Sherriff's Department to attend our November meeting.
- Ouellette will review the Bootcamp training offering and make recommendations to the Planning Board if appropriate.
- Training Opportunities continue to be available at the Hancock Estabrook (MRB). They offer monthly online in-service opportunities for planning board members on the 4th Thursday of each month from 6-7:00pm. You must register ahead of time.

Davison made a motion to adjourn at 8:00pm. It was seconded by Ceurter . All members present were in favor.

Next PB meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at 6:30 pm.