

THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG
Planning Board
Reorganizational & Regular Meeting
January 17, 2023

OFFICIAL MINUTES
Adopted 2/21/23

Tracee Schaefer, acting as Chair Pro Tem, called the Reorganizational and Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 pm

ROLL CALL

Ms. Tracee Schaefer, Chairwoman	Mr. Paul Fiorilla
Mr. Donald Speeney, Vice Chairman	Mr. Troy Sims
Mr. Ronald Jubin, Mayor	Mr. Michael Birnberg (absent)
Mr. Curt Dahl, Councilman	Mr. Francis P. Linnus, Esq.
Ms. Ellen Spingler, Secretary	Mr. Mark Healey, PP
Mr. Al Ellis	Mr. Richard Calbi Jr., Board Engineer
Ms. Karen Pennett	Mr. John Jahr, Board Traffic Engineer
Mr. Steve Pote	Ms. Theresa Snyder, Board Clerk

Tracee Schaefer read the statement indicating the meeting was being held in compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 of the Open Public Meetings Act, the Municipal Land Use Law requirements, and the recording of the Minutes as required by law. She then led the flag salute to the American flag.

REORGANIZATION FOR 2023

OATHS OF OFFICE

Mayor Jubin
Councilman Curt Dahl
Albert Ellis

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairperson

On motion by Mr. Speeney, seconded by Ms. Spingler, the election of Tracee Schaefer to Chairwoman was accepted based on the following roll call vote:

Roll Call:

Ayes: Ms. Spingler, Mr. Ellis, Councilman Dahl, Ms. Pennett,
Mayor Jubin, Mr. Speeney, Mr. Pote, Mr. Fiorilla, and
Mr. Sims

Nays:

Not Eligible:
Abstain:
Absent:

Vice-Chairperson

On motion by Chairwoman Schaefer, seconded by Ms. Pennett, the election of Donald Speeney to Vice-Chairman was accepted and based on the following roll call vote:

Roll Call:

Ayes: Ms. Spingler, Mr. Ellis, Councilman Dahl, Ms. Pennett,
Mayor Jubin, Mr. Pote, Mr. Fiorilla, Mr. Sims, and
Madam Chair
Nays:
Not Eligible:
Abstain:
Absent:

Secretary

On motion by Mr. Speeney, seconded by Mr. Ellis, the election of Ellen Spingler to Secretary was accepted and based on the following roll call vote:

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mr. Ellis, Councilman Dahl, Ms. Pennett,
Mayor Jubin, Mr. Speeney, Mr. Pote, Mr. Fiorilla,
Mr. Sims, and Madam Chair
Nays:
Not Eligible:
Abstain:
Absent:

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution PB 23-R1
Calendar of Regular Meetings

On motion by Chairwoman Schaefer, seconded by Mr. Speeney, the calendar of regular meeting dates for 2023 was accepted and carried on voice vote.

Resolution PB 23-R2
Adoption of By-Laws

On motion by Mr. Fiorilla, seconded by Mr. Speeney, the calendar of regular meeting dates for 2023 was accepted and carried on voice vote.

Resolution PB 23-R3
Designation of Official Newspapers

On motion by Madam Chair, seconded by Ms. Spingler, the official newspapers for 2023 was accepted and carried on voice vote.

Resolution PB 23-R4
Appointment of Board Professionals

On motion by Chairwoman Schaefer, seconded by Mr. Speeney, the appointment of professionals for 2023 was accepted and carried on voice vote.

The board professionals were sworn in to give testimony for the calendar year of 2022.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Site Plan and Sub-division Committee:

Tracee Schaefer
Donald Speeney
Ellen Spingler
Troy Sims
Steve Pote- Alternate
Paul Fiorilla- Alternate

Ordinance Committee:

Tracee Schaefer
Donald Speeney
Curt Dahl
Francis P. Linnus, Esq.
Mark Healey, PP
Steve Pote- Alternate

Ordinance Committee Cont.

Michael Birnberg- Alternate

County Planning Liason:

Tracee Schaefer
Donald Speeney
Al Ellis
Mayor Ron Jubin

Environmental Committee:

Karen Pennett

Finance Committee:

Tracee Schaefer
Theresa Snyder

The Board adjourned to the regular meeting.

MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Pote, seconded by Mr. Speeney, the minutes Regular Meeting Minutes, December 13, 2023 were accepted and carried on voice vote with Mayor Jubin, Councilman Dahl, and Ms. Pennett abstaining.

DISCUSSION

Chairwoman Schaefer welcomed the new board members. She looked forward to working together. She asked that politics be left at the door. She encouraged new members to ask questions, and told everyone that the Board had a bewitching hour of 10 pm. She looked forward to the year ahead.

Mr. Speeney requested an update to the status of the Green Development Checklist that was part of the Master Plan reexamination report dated December 14, 2020. He also informed the Board that he read an article that the Army Corps of Engineers was being funded for northerly Somerset

County. He expressed his concern with retention along the Green Brook and Blue Brook. It was proposed that \$50 million was to be designated for the area. Mr. Speeney wanted the Borough to be in the loop. Mayor Jubin informed the Board that Councilwoman Ead sat on the Greenbrook Flood Commission. Mr. Ellis, as a member of the Somerset County Planning Board, said the County was involved with the process and had vigilant overlook. He ensured the Board that Watchung would be informed of any benefit it would receive. Mr. Speeney had a copy of the Army Corps of Engineer's proposal.

The meeting was opened to the public. There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURN

The Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Theresa Snyder', is written over the printed name.

Theresa Snyder
Board Clerk