

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2005

6:30 P.M.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT: Mayor Ellis called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM and made the following statement: Under the provisions of N.J.S.A.10:4-6 et seq., notice of the time and place of this meeting was given by way of special notice to the Courier News, Echoes Sentinel, Messenger-Gazette and Star Ledger, and posted at Borough Hall.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG, SILENT PRAYER, AND ROLL CALL

Black [P] Franklin [P] Mobus [P] Joren [P] Harding [P] Pote [P]

Also present were Administrator/Clerk Laureen Fellin, Borough Attorney Albert Cruz and Deputy Clerk Michelle DeRocco.

There was one person from the public present.

DISCUSSION: 2005 Master Plan Re-Examination

Mayor Ellis deferred to Councilwoman Joren, as she serves as the Chairperson of the Laws and Ordinance Committee.

Councilwoman Joren explained that the Planning Board, in a memo dated July 8, 2005, provided to the Laws and Ordinance Committee a list of issues they felt needed to be reviewed. She said the Committee discussed each issue and with input from Mr. Cruz, came up with their recommendations. She said they are still open for feedback and are still able to make changes. Mrs. Joren had previously distributed to the governing body a memo outlining their recommendations and suggested that this evening they go over each item one at a time. She also mentioned that comments were submitted by Councilman Pote after his review and will be considered.

(Copy of the Laws and Ordinance Committee's memo of September 8, 2005 identifying potential issues is attached)

Mayor Ellis thanked Councilwoman Joren, the Committee, Mr. Cruz and the Planning Board for their hard work and dedication. He explained that these recommendations will now go back to the Planning Board, and then back to the governing body for their final approval.

RESOLUTIONS

PUBLIC PORTION

Lynda Goldschein, Sherwood Drive, said residents are starting to install new decorative lighting fixtures in their yards, some as high as 40' and feels it changes the character of the neighborhood. Mayor Ellis said the issue of candle power will be looked at. Mrs. Goldschein asked if the governing body is considering the future of properties such as Twin Brooks and Weldon, if they become available, in regard to the Master Plan. She said there are many things that have to be considered and asked if the governing body is addressing the problem of people knocking down small houses to put up a larger one which may take up the whole lot and Mayor Ellis said this was a good point, however, there is a building envelope that they would need to comply with, depending upon the lot. Mrs. Goldschein asked what a steep slope ordinance is and Councilwoman Joren explained that it is the whole ratio to slope of your land.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 PM to the call of the Chair until the next meeting scheduled for September 8, 2005 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle DeRocco
Deputy Clerk