

March 25, 2015

**RIDGELY PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

The March meeting of the Ridgely Planning Commission was called to order by Martin Sokolich @ 7:02pm.

Attendance: Committee President: Martin Sokolich, Committee Member: Rob McQuade, and Committee Member: Dale Mumford. Also in attendance were: John Buckle – Commissioner, Anthony Casey – Commissioner, David Crist – Director of Public Works, Melissa Leonard – Asst. Clerk Treasurer, Cary Malkus – Zoning Administrator. ***Rob made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 25, 2015 and Dale 2nd. All were in favor!***

Old Business

New Business

SHORE BANK SHARES (building permit application) – The company submitted a building permit application and it looks good to move forward. The commission was very impressed with the submitted drawings and does not feel that there is any further need of their involvement. Assuming the plans meet fire and occupancy standards, ok to move forward. Dale made a motion to approve plans as submitted and Rob 2nd. All were in favor.

Reports and Updates

WALNUT FARMS – There was some discussion about the Walnut Farms property. We are waiting to hear back from the bank. Dale would like to see the “scheduled” road from the original plans remain between Walnut and Bell Streets.

ZONING ORDINANCE – Mark Gradecek created a digital document, which is great. The problem is that he asked more questions than he answered. We need more Zoning, Organizing and Mapping. It was suggested that we ask Mark (Gradecek) to write a letter to the Town that says he cannot complete the project and has no plans to bill us for any time. The Comprehensive Plan was supposed to get the ball rolling on updating the Zoning Ordinance. We should check into some researchers/consultants (basis is financial) to see if they know or could recommend someone. The person must be certified and know what’s going on:

- 1.) Need to be done
- 2.) Need \$2500 for now and an additional \$2500 FY16, if possible
- 3.) Send out request of interest without putting price on it.
 - Post on the MML Site, if possible for interested parties to call/email
 - Grant \$ to update Ordinances – check with Sustainable Communities

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Open Discussion

Commissioner Buckle is interested in joining the P&Z Committee. There currently is nothing in the Town Charter that states he cannot. Dale said, we can have one Commissioner, you just cannot have the majority of the Commissioners on the same board. He (Buckle) must write a letter of interest and we shall then submit a letter to the Town Commissioners to approve his appointment.

Dale asked about ideas for the Tech Park. He doesn't think anything is going to happen without the town pushing it. Martin explained that although Dale is correct, the property actually belongs to Caroline County and the State of Maryland (DBED). Ridgely really doesn't have any say. Dale wants the Zoning Ordinance consultant to look into the future to include rules for the Tech Park. Currently, it's zoned I-3 and that is all we can say or do.

Reports and Updates

***Next Meeting Scheduled for April 22, 2015 @ 7:00pm – if needed
Meeting adjourned @ 8:03pm by Rob, 2nd by Dale
Respectfully Submitted by Melissa Leonard – Asst. Clerk Treasurer***