

Town of Hope
Minutes of Planning Board
March 18, 2008

Present: Bill Pearse, Jr., Juanita Hunt, Peter Sexton, Dick Brodis, Ron Smith, Tug Kellough

Jon Duke, CEO

Paul Gibbons, Town Legal Counsel

Meeting Called to Order @ 6:30 p.m.

Minutes read and accepted as written

Old Business: Peter Sexton asked for the floor and then gave his personal opinion that the original assessment of the Martz subdivision had been properly done. Information that came to light after the fact of initial approval did not mandate that the town re-open the assessment of the Martz subdivision. At that point the town had re-inserted itself in what was essentially a civil matter between landowners. Such a matter should be dealt with in the proper venue, i.e. respective counsels and the courts if necessary.

Town Legal Counsel Gibbons demurred after Peter had finished and ventured that the town and the board did have a responsibility once the facts had come to light concerning the wetlands.

At this point Town Counsel Gibbons began to try and find out points of contention and agreement between Charlie Martz and the Bagnalls.

The Bagnalls asked for verification that the DEP has indeed signed off on Martz's assertion that the water from the wetlands is indeed going now where it has originally, naturally.

The Bagnalls in turn were asked to verify that if the water runoff went to an existing wetland on their property, that later, further diversion would not be deemed necessary.

Agreement in principal was stated by both parties that any change in the proposed water run-off would have to be engineered if the Bagnalls were to grant the necessary easement.

Mr. Martz would lay the pipe

Jon Duke ventured than the distances involved were very similar and so would the actual cost of materials.

Points of disagreement were maintenance of the pipe line once it was installed, who would bear the costs of engineering and certification of DEP satisfaction.

An impasse developed at this point. Town Counsel did a summation of the situation and the possible scenarios for the future to all parties concerned. He urged that a realistic and pragmatic approach would serve everyone the best.

Motion was made to table and continue discussion at the meeting of April 1, 2008.

Jon then told us that Nancy Dowling would be coming before the planning board on April 1st for permission to have a dog kennel operation on her property. Tom Ford will also be coming to present the proposed amendments to the Town code

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Ron Smith handed out the first working copy for the fast food ordinance.

Meeting was adjourned @8:30 p.m.