

**Village of Lansing
Planning Board Meeting
October 26, 2010**

1 The meeting of the Village of Lansing Planning Board was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Chairman Mario
2 Tomei. Present at the meeting were Planning Board Members, Phil Dankert, Richard Durst, Maria
3 Stycos, and Lisa Schleelein; Village Attorney David Dubow; Code Enforcement Officer Marty Moseley;
4 Community Party Observer Larry Bieri; Village residents and Planning Board alternate candidates Mark
5 Mahoney and Jonathan Kanter.

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7 **Public Comment Period**

8 Tomei opened the public comment period. Larry Bieri introduced himself as the Community
9 Party observer. Bieri noted that he thought that the new “shotgun” style senior housing units proposed
10 for Oakcrest Road as part of the recently approved Lansing Meadows PDA were not attractive, were not
11 a good idea, and did not fit into the character of the neighborhood. Tomei noted that he thought that
12 they were attractive, and that they are a different type of look for the area. Bieri also stated that the
13 future BJ’s store should paint the north and west sides of the building to blend into the landscaping a
14 little better. Bieri suggested that the red color on the Y.M.C.A and now the CIAO! Restaurant is attractive
15 or an earth tone. Tomei noted that the northwest side of the building will have a decent amount of
16 buffering to help blend the building into the natural landscaping. There being no one else to speak,
17 Dankert moved to close the public comment period. Seconded by Schleelein, Ayes: Tomei, Dankert,
18 Schleelein, Durst, and Stycos.

19 **NYSPPF (New York State Planning Federation) Reports**

20 Tomei explained that Moseley and Schleelein had attended the NYSPPF in Lake Placid N.Y.
21 Schleelein noted that the classes she attended were Planning Board Basics, Ethics and Land Use, Site
22 Plan Review and Special Permits. Schleelein stated that the big topics were aging demographics and
23 senior housing. Schleelein noted that the Ethics and Land Use class was one of the best ones that she
24 attended. Schleelein stated that the decision making skills of the Planning Board are very important
25 along with all the documentation. Schleelein explained that the SEQRA (State Environmental Quality
26 Review Act) Class was a bit more advanced than what she would have liked. Schleelein noted that one of
27 the important facts that were mentioned at the conference was that Planning Boards should understand
28 that everything that they do affects someone in the community in some way. Tomei noted that he has
29 been to three of the conferences and each time there was something different and helpful. Moseley
30 stated that in addition to the classes that he and Schleelein attended were: How to Avoid an Article 78
31 Class and a Board of Zoning Appeals Class. Moseley noted that the Article 78 Class was one of the most
32 interesting classes to him, and the person who was teaching the class was an attorney for one of the
33 municipalities in N.Y. Schleelein stated that she was unaware of how many resources there are available
34 for Planning Board members. Tomei noted that there will be an opportunity for training at Tompkins
35 Cortland Community College on December 1st, 2010 in the evening. Durst, Stycos, and Tomei will be
36 attending.

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38 **Approval of Minutes**

39 Durst moved to accept the minutes, as corrected, of July 27th, 2010. Seconded by Schleelein,
40 Ayes: Tomei, Dankert, Schleelein and Durst. Stycos abstained. Dankert moved to accept the minutes, as
41 corrected, of August 18th, 2010. Seconded by Stycos, Ayes: Tomei, Dankert, Schleelein, Durst and
42 Stycos. Durst moved to accept the minutes, as corrected, of September 13th, 2010. Seconded by
43 Dankert, Ayes by Tomei, Dankert, Schleelein and Durst. Stycos abstained.

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45 **Reports**

46 *Trustees meeting-* Dankert reported on the October 4th, 2010 meeting. There was a discussion
47 on work place violence, and Jodi Dake reported that the Village did not need a formal work place
48 violence plan in place because there are not enough full time employees. A simpler workplace policy
49 notice will be prepared and posted as required. Karen Coleman, from the Joint Youth Commission,
50 made a presentation to the Board of Trustees. On October 18th, 2010 meeting there was a public hearing
51 for Proposed Local Law C, which provided for the new and more specific ground cover requirements in
52 the Zoning Law to prevent soil erosion control. Dankert noted that there was also a public hearing on
53 Proposed Local Law D which provided for an amendment to the Village Bow Hunting Law allowing a
54 person to fire a Bow within 500 feet of a structure if the hunter has permission to do so. Dubow added
55 that NYS law already has this exception from the 500 foot restriction and the Village was now
56 incorporating this exception into the Village Code. Both Local Laws were adopted. Dankert noted that
57 the Trustees entered into a private session involving attorney-client communications regarding DPW
58 (Department of Public Works) garage addition bid matters. Dubow added that Leopold spoke on the
59 Chesapeake and Susquehanna drainage issues. Leopold noted that the most affected by the drainage
60 issues would be the small farms, which could potentially force them out of business. Leopold stated that
61 the main issue is the spreading of cow manure on fields during all seasons of the year.

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63 **Other Business**

64 Tomei noted that for next meeting the Planning Board will be working through the Sign Law, and
65 the paper that was handed out deals with those issues for the members to think about. Dubow
66 suggested that the Planning Board members try to block out some time before the next meeting to
67 review the Sign Law in the same fashion as had been done with the Zoning Law and write down any
68 questions or comments they might have.

69 Tomei stated that both Mahoney and Kanter were both possible candidates for the alternate
70 member position for the Planning Board. Tomei explained that the Planning Board likes the alternate
71 member to attend as many meetings as possible, and that the alternate member would be able to be
72 activated when there is an absence from the core five members. Tomei noted that Mahoney has lived in
73 the Village for a little over a year. Tomei asked why Mahoney would like to be on the Planning Board.
74 Mahoney noted that he was a political science major in college, was interested in the Joint Youth
75 Commission, and was also interested in the Planning Board. Tomei noted that Kanter is the current
76 Town of Ithaca Planning Department Director. Tomei asked what the planning department did and
77 Kanter briefly explained his current position and duties. Kanter noted that he was going to retire this
78 year after 16 years of service with the Town of Ithaca and after 32 years of planning oriented services.
79 Kanter has lived in the Village for a little over a year as well. Kanter explained that a planning
80 department generally works with a planning board, gathers information for a planning board and
81 provides guidance to a planning board. Kanter noted that he would like to try to give back to the

82 community that he lives in. Tomei asked Kanter what he liked about the Village of Lansing. Kanter
83 stated that it was a very pretty village with a lot of contrast. Kanter explained that the Village had some
84 very nice residential areas, but also has quite a bit of commercial area as well. Kanter noted that he
85 enjoys working on open space planning, including trying to find a nice balance between open space and
86 development. Mahoney asked what the timeframe and process was for appointing the person to the
87 alternate position. Tomei noted that the Planning Board will recommend a person to the Board of
88 Trustees, who will then, at their next meeting on 11/1/10 would very likely appoint the alternate
89 member to the Planning Board.

90 Stycos moved to enter into Executive session at 8:40 p.m. to discuss personnel related matters.
91 Seconded by Durst, Ayes: Tomei, Dankert, Schleelein, Durst and Stycos.

92 Durst moved to exit from executive session at 8:58p.m. Seconded by Dankert, Ayes: Tomei,
93 Dankert, Schleelein, Durst and Stycos.

94 Durst moved that the Planning Board recommend to the Board of Trustees that Jonathan Kanter
95 fill the alternate position on the Planning Board. Seconded by Stycos, Ayes: Dankert, Ayes: Tomei,
96 Dankert, Schleelein, Durst and Stycos.

97 Schleelein moved to enter into private session at 9:08 involving attorney-client communications
98 with Dubow. Seconded by Dankert, Ayes: Tomei, Dankert, Schleelein, Durst and Stycos.

99 Dankert moved to exit from private session at 9:31. Seconded by Schleelein, Ayes: Tomei,
100 Dankert, Schleelein, Durst and Stycos.

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103 **Adjournment:**

104 Durst moved to adjourn at 9:32 P.M. Seconded by Schleelein. Ayes: Tomei, Dankert, Schleelein, Durst
105 and Stycos.