

**Village of Lansing
Planning Board Meeting
December 10, 2007**

The meeting of the Village of Lansing Planning Board was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Chairman Ned Hickey. Present at the meeting were Planning Board Members Phil Dankert, Maria Stycos and Mario Tomei; Village Attorney David Dubow; Trustee Liaison Lynn Leopold; and Code Enforcement Officer Ben Curtis.

Public Comment:

Hickey opened the Public Comment period.

As there was no one present who wished to speak, Dankert moved to close the Public Comment Period. Seconded by Stycos. Ayes by Dankert, Hickey, Stycos and Tomei. Motion carried.

Planning Goals 2008:

Hickey referred the Board members to the Goals for 2007 which had been sent out in the packets. Hickey stated the first goal which was to review the Zoning, Subdivision and Special Permit Regulations should remain an ongoing goal as the Board is continuously updating and clarifying the existing regulations and application procedures. The Board made a number of needed changes this year, but all agreed there are certainly more that need to be done. The second goal was to develop a Village Stormwater Management Plan and that goal has been accomplished. The third goal was to review and update the existing Village Lighting Plan. That goal will be carried over to 2008 as Dankert would like to continue to work on the Lighting Plan. Dankert would like to look at standardizing the various types of street lights approved for use in the Village as NYSEG does not service all the various types on the market. Committee members Dankert, Leopold and Superintendent of Public Works Courtney will work on this in 2008.

Hickey stated the Board will consider goals again at the first meeting in January in case there are any other goals the Board would like to tackle in 2008.

Approval of Minutes Oct. 30, Nov. 12, Nov.27:

Tomei moved to approve the minutes of October 30th as revised. Seconded by Stycos. Ayes by Dankert, Hickey, Stycos and Tomei. Motion carried.

Dankert moved to approve the minutes of November 12th as revised. Seconded by Stycos. Ayes by Dankert, Hickey, Stycos and Tomei. Motion carried.

Tomei moved to approve the minutes of November 27th as revised. Seconded by Stycos. Ayes by Dankert, Hickey, Stycos and Tomei. Motion carried.

Reports:

Board of Trustees: Tomei attended the Dec. 3rd meeting and stated a temporary Certificate of Occupancy was approved for Colonial Vet. The Board of Trustees also scheduled Public Hearings on proposed Local Laws I (Mixed Use in Commercial High Traffic District), J (Definition of "Lot" in Zoning Law), K (Definition of "Lot" in Subdivision Law) and L (Stormwater Management Law) for Dec. 18th. Dubow stated there would also be a Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law H (Sewer Surcharge Increase). Dubow stated Clerk Dake would send the 239 information to the County. Dubow stated the Trustees were anxious to adopt the Stormwater Management Law before the State deadline of December 31.

Dubow stated Trustee O'Neill expressed concerns from his neighborhood about solicitors. Dubow also stated that the Village does not have a local law regulating door to door solicitation. Curtis noted that although there are no restrictions, some companies give a list of names and social security numbers for solicitors. Curtis stated he also generally requests solicitors to register with the Sheriff's Department. The Planning Board will discuss this topic if it is referred to them by the Board of Trustees.

Next, there was a discussion about the abandoning of shopping carts throughout the Village and particularly in the Village drainage way on Graham Road. The Public Works staff have removed them and it is a difficult time-consuming task. Carts are also regularly left on the property of the apartment complexes along Graham Road. Hickey stated the Village has a law regarding littering as well as a law that requires property owners to keep their drainage ways clear. Hickey would like to see the property owners notified, and then it is their responsibility to keep them clean. Curtis stated there is some disagreement between the property owners in question as to whose responsibility it is. The stream goes down the property line, and therefore both could be cited. Hickey stated that notices should go to the owners of both apartment complexes to rectify the problem. Dubow stated Village law states drainage ways must be kept clear and the Village can order it to be cleaned up. If there is not compliance, the Trustees can authorize Village Public Works Department to do the cleanup and bill the property owner for the costs. Dubow recommended the 30 day notice be shortened to 3 or 5 days for compliance. Curtis stated he has only pursued this course of action once with regard to a drainage way in the Twin Glens area, but the requisite authorization for the DPW was not forthcoming. Dubow stated a friendly approach to both property owners may gain compliance before the Village needs to take action. Curtis responded that he has contacted both property owners on several occasions.

Curtis recommended researching what other municipalities are doing as this problem is not uncommon and has been going on for a long time. Someone suggested a cart pickup/drop-off site for the shopping carts at the apartment locations, but Dubow stated that the Village should not encourage what is essentially the theft of shopping carts. Another suggestion was to place vertical posts in the walkways so the carts could not fit past a specific location, but it was noted that this would cause problems with snow removal and handicap access. Hickey will attend the Board of Trustees meeting in December and will raise the issue of abandoned shopping carts.

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Other Business as Time Permits:

Hickey stated the agenda for Jan. 14th would include a training presentation by David Fernandez of Cayuga Landscaping and also a continuation of the discussion of the new Cayuga Medical Association building. Curtis has also heard that Eric Goetzmann from the Shops at Ithaca Mall plans to be on the agenda for the January 29th meeting. Hickey stated there was a meeting of himself, Curtis, Lansing Fire Chief Scott Purcell, and 911 Cordinator Lee Shurtleff regarding the entrance to the Parkview Health Care Campus. It was determined that a ten foot wide paved shoulder on the south side of Arrowwood Drive from the entrance up to Convenient Care's driveway would resolve any concerns about emergency access. There was also discussion about a Geogrid system that might look more like a landscape feature, but still be rated for 40 tons to meet fire department needs. It was noted that this roadway could also be gated, chained or striped and thereby useable only in case of an emergency. It was reported that Herman Sieverding of Integrated Acquisition and Development is working on a design for this solution.

Stycos asked if Board members have received enough educational hours. Hickey responded that the Board was in good shape and Tomei has enough training for about 3 years by attending the conference in Saratoga. Hickey stated Board members could be credited for studying the educational material which is often included in their packets.

Leopold stated that Chrys Gardiner of Cooperative Extension has offered free daffodil bulbs to the Village. These need to be placed in the ground soon. Leopold will get some and put them in around the Village Office and Tompkins Trust Company.

Adjournment:

Stycos moved to adjourn at 8:15 P.M. Seconded by Tomei. Ayes by Dankert, Hickey, Stycos and Tomei. Motion carried.