

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Village of Williamsville held in the Williamsville Village Hall, 5565 Main Street, Williamsville, New York on July 17, 2000 at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Basil J. Piazza, Mayor
Joseph Frese, Deputy Mayor
Richard Langenfeld, Trustee
William Wutz, Trustee

Sally A. Kuzon, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer
Lynda L. Juul, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Patrick Kelly, Attorney

Absent: Barbara Schofield, Trustee
John Anstett, Dept. of Public Works

Mayor Piazza opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Trustee Frese.

Attorney Kelly asked Administrator Kuzon if the Amherst Bee, who is the official newspaper of the Village of Williamsville, was notified of this public meeting and if so, when? Administrator Kuzon responded the Amherst Bee Newspaper was notified of this Special Meeting on Friday, July 14, 2000. Attorney Kelly recognized the publisher and reporter of the Amherst Bee in attendance tonight.

ON MOTION by Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, it was moved to suspend rules for public participation.

Unanimously carried.

Anthony Renaldo, Attorney for Benderson Development would like the Board to consider the possibility of constructing a small office building in place of the planned hotel at the rear of the Rite Aid property at Main and Los Robles Streets. He explained that Benderson Development is prepared with plans and engineering to go ahead with the hotel, but a feasibility study indicated the project is not profitable due to the size (67 hotel rooms) and number of hotels built in this area over the past year. He also indicated the office building would be a two story, 20,000 square foot structure as opposed to the current hotel plan of three story, 30,000 square foot building. Benderson Development has a tenant for the proposed office building, which would employ 40-45 people.

Trustee Frese asked Mr. Renaldo if he was asking to re-open the Exceptional Development Permit for the property at this time. Mr. Renaldo responded this is not his intention. Trustee Frese asked Attorney Kelly what process the Board could follow if the Exceptional Development Permit was re-opened. Attorney Kelly responded the Board could issue a stop work order.

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Randy Benderson of Benderson Development assured the Board the original plans for a hotel would go forward if they did not look favorably at the construction of an office building on this site.

Mr. Renaldo again addressed the Board indicating Benderson Development may seek a variance in the future to increase the number of hotel rooms for the current project.

Trey Measer, 90 S. Ellicott Street asked the developer if he was proposing both an office building and requesting a hotel variance tonight. Mr. Renaldo responded they are only requesting an office building tonight.

ON MOTION by Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Frese, it was moved to return to the regular agenda.

Unanimously carried.

Trustee Langenfeld had no comment or opinion on the proposal tonight. He requested documentation of the market studies showing initial feasibility as well as the current feasibility study for the hotel.

Trustee Frese is against the proposal submitted tonight and does not feel the Village needs another office building. His commitment to Village residents is first a hotel and then Rite Aid.

Trustee Wutz said he is willing to listen to different plans for a hotel, but is against the proposed office building.

Mayor Piazza wants the project to move forward as originally planned. He also would like to see documentation of the feasibility study discussed tonight.

Randy Benderson thanked the Board for the opportunity to submit their proposal tonight and assured the Board they are moving ahead with the plans and construction of the hotel at this time.

ON MOTION by Mayor Piazza, seconded by Trustee Wutz, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Unanimously carried.

Sally A. Kuzon
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer