MINUTES OF HARWICH HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING, TUESDAY NOVEMBER, 24, 2020

Art Bodin called the meeting to order at 5:07pm, role call was taken. Attending the meeting, Art Bodin, Mary Maslowski, Joe McParland, Absent Cindi Maule, Meg Patterson.

Minutes of September 14, 2020, meeting where not discussed, not everyone in attendance had a copy, will discuss at next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Vote to rescind the Housing Committees vote of September 14, 2020 (which approved Chris Wise’s Rte. 137 project).

Art read published article in the Chronicle, that because there was no formal permit application for the project, there is no project until an application is filed for approval.

With discussion Mary put forward the motion to rescind the Housing Committees’ original approval. Joe seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and Art, Mary & Joe voted in the affirmative. (Cindi & Meg, no vote they were absent) The vote was 3-0.

A letter will be sent to the BOS of this vote.

2, Art presented his discussion with Stephen Ford (Housing Committees’ liaison with the BOS) on

On 11/4/20. Art spoke of the committees’ concern of not having a secretary (Meg Patterson)

Who for ever reason is missing, all attempts, email & telephone have failed. Also our major

Concern is the lack of real productive work to do. Although the committee had a joint meeting

With the Affordable Housing Trust earlier in the year, little has come out of it. Mr. Ford said

That he was to make contact with the committee since he is our liaison with BOS, also to convey

The message that the BOS wanted the committee to formally rescind it’s Sept. 14,2020

Discission on our vote on the Chris Wise Rte. 137 project. Also Mr. Ford commended on Art’s

Concerns that the committee was frustrated of the lack of meaning full projects, his thoughts

Where maybe the two committees’ should merge into one . Mary’s comments centered

Around the fact that the committee is only advisory in nature by it’s Charter, and if where

not asked to advise then we have to stand by. Joe’s comments showed his frustration in

not having any real work to do, he pointed out that other towns have formed a partnership

nd seem to work together. Joe continued that we should be part of the Housing process

each step of the way, and also include the Housing Coordinator.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion, AHT to increase funding for the emergency rental assistance program. Art lead the discussion, he talked with the Director of the Harwich Housing Authority and our Housing coordinator, both said they had some inquires each month but no significant numbers that there was a need in a Harwich above what is normal, no action taken.
2. Talking points for annual meeting with the BOS, nothing new was added.
3. Election of officers. Art spoke to this item, with just a quorum (3) members present, Art requested to postpone this item until we have a full committee present.
4. General comments, Art recognized Karolyn Mccelland who is the Chair of the Chatham Housing Partnership Committee, Karolyn gave us a little historical background of her committee , that for a long time they didn’t have much to do, but some how they kept it together and now Chatham has a revised Trust Committee things are changing. Some points that she made was, look at what Harwich has for Housing and see how that is working for the Town, to high light a presentation, Also look for avenues to enhance Housing issues in Town and who is being served by Affordable Housing in Harwich.
5. Next meeting will be sometime in January 2021
6. At 5:50pm Joe made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Mary, Meeting adjourned.

Authorized Posting Officer Posted By:

Arthur F. Bodin

Date: Town Clerk

trust