



TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON

Office of the Township Manager

MEETING NOTES

September 5, 2019 4:02 p.m.

TO: Richard J. Manfredi, Township Manager

DATE: SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

SUBJECT: VPRB MEETING

REFERENCE: MEETING NOTES OF VPRB MTG OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

ATTENDEES: BOB GREAVES, CHAIRMAN, COMMISSIONER SPIEGELMAN, DAVID FORBES, CATHY GAUTHIER, MARK PENECALE, SHAWN LITTLEFIELD, MARIA WYRSTA, JASON PAUL, LORA LEHMANN

SUMMARY: AS FOLLOWS

General Discussion:

August meeting notes were approved with correction of address of 1829 Davisville Road.

Waiver requests; six waiver requests were submitted, and two were approved by Township Manager for 864-872 Township Line Road and 968 Old York Road which that is good for six months; the other four waiver requests were denied, and letters were sent to property owners.

Site updates; Patane property; two apartments are occupied; lease of 5,800 sq. ft. is a legal matter in court and 10,400 sq. ft. of space is less than 60% occupied, so they need to register as vacant property and registration fee will be evaluated. 103 Township Line Road was supposed to go to Sheriff's Sale but was pushed back until the end of October. Former Aldi's space; no plans have come in yet; 1811 Horace Avenue, Deli property; no building permits have been issued; former Abington Bank will become Chase Bank.

There were no new waiver requests currently.

Economic Development Corporation is an independent nonprofit entity that works with the Township on development and redevelopment of specific areas in the community, although the Township will retain control. The EDC can apply for grants; access private funding sources as well as taxable and tax-exempt debt and will have a larger platform than the existing Economic Development Committee, which is an advisory group that provides guidance, but needs approval on any decisions being made.

Ordinance No. 2169 will be advertised for the creation of the EDC Corporation and there will be a public hearing. Also, the EDC will work in conjunction with the work being done on revised Comprehensive Plan for the Township. Copy of draft Ordinance No. 2169 will be circulated to the VPRB for review.

Open house concept is to invite business owners to meet with real estate agents, developers as a proactive approach in getting vacant commercial properties occupied. Discussed was identifying potential investors and suggested was to get input on the concept of an open house from developers and real estate agents.

Next meeting of the VPRB is scheduled for October 3, 2019.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Action Items and Responsibility:

Draft Ordinance No. 2169 will be circulated to the VPRB for review.

Discuss concept of open house with real estate agents & developers.