

PLANNING BOARD, CITY OF GARFIELD
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
Conducted on July 15, 2021

The Special Meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Visotcky at 7:30 p.m. who thereupon read the statement required by the Open Public Meeting Act. Secretary called the roll.

ROLL CALL:

Councilman, Romi Herrera
Chairwoman, Lou Ann Visotcky
Vice Chairman, Michael Wisnovsky
Gracie Williams
James Clark
Peter Santacroce, 1st Alternate

Absent:

Mayor Richard Rigoglioso
Michael Garcia
Costantino Conte, 2nd Alternate

Others present were:

Alyssa A. Cimino, Esq., Attorney/Secretary of the Planning Board
Carl O'Brien, Planning Board Planner
David Juzmeski, Planning Board Engineer
Beth Calderone, Certified Court Reporter

(Flag Salute)

Notice of this Special Meeting and venue change from Council Chambers, Second Floor, City Hall to a Zoom Conference Meeting has been provided at least 48 hours in advance by publication in The Bergen Record and The Herald News on July 8, 2021.

New Business

Hearing on first reading of Garfield City Council Ordinance permitting the operation of Cannabis businesses within its geographical boundaries, creating a Municipal tax relative to Cannabis sales, setting Zoning Regulations for Cannabis businesses, and other regulations relating to Cannabis.

The Chairwoman then asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Motion to open the meeting to the public.

Moved: James Clark
Second: Gracie Williams

Councilman, Romi Herrera – Aye
Chairwoman, Lou Ann Visotcky – Aye
Vice Chairman, Michael Wisnovsky - Aye
Gracie Williams - Aye
James Clark – Aye
Peter Santacroce, 1st Alternate
Motion Approved.

The Chairwoman asked if anyone from the public wanted to come forward regarding this matter.

Frank Calandriello from the public asked how many licenses will be issued and would it be treated the same way that liquor licenses are assigned.

The Board responded that they were informed that the State of New Jersey is only receiving a small amount of licenses. It is classified as a light manufacturing district and commercial district.

The Chairwoman asked if anyone else from the public wanted to come forward.

The Chairwoman stated that no one from the public came forward.

The Chairwoman asked for a motion to close the public session regarding this application.

Motion to close the Public Session.

Moved: Councilman, Romi Herrera
Second: Vice Chairman, Michael Wisnovsky

Councilman, Romi Herrera – Aye
Chairwoman, Lou Ann Visotcky – Aye
Vice Chairman, Michael Wisnovksy - Aye
Gracie Williams - Aye
James Clark – Aye
Peter Santacroce, 1st Alternate - Aye
Motion Approved.

Hearing on whether the Planning Board will support the City of Garfield Application to the Green Acres Park Development Grant Program.

The Chairwoman asked for a motion to support Green Acres.

Motion to support Application to the Green Acres Park Development Grant Program.

Moved: Vice Chairman, Michael Wisnovsky
Second: Councilman, Romi Herrera

Councilman, Romi Herrera – Aye
Chairwoman, Lou Ann Visotcky – Aye
Vice Chairman, Michael Wisnovksy - Aye
Gracie Williams - Aye
James Clark – Aye
Peter Santacroce, 1st Alternate - Aye
Motion Approved.

The Chairwoman then asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Motion to open the meeting to the public.

Moved: Gracie Williams
Second: Peter Santacroce, 1st Alternate

Councilman, Romi Herrera – Aye
Chairwoman, Lou Ann Visotcky – Aye
Vice Chairman, Michael Wisnovsky - Aye
Gracie Williams - Aye
James Clark – Aye
Peter Santacroce, 1st Alternate
Motion Approved.

The Chairwoman asked if anyone from the public wanted to come forward regarding this matter.

Dennis Malicki from the public asked if the Mayor would be attending the meeting tonight.

The Chairwoman stated that he would not be attending.

Mr. Malicki stated that he was looking for confirmation from the Mayor's previous statement regarding any residential or commercial development plans for Columbus Park.

Ms. Cimino responded that the Planning Board was specifically voting on support for the Green Acres Grant Program.

Mr. Malicki asked if anyone on the Board was aware of any plans to build condominiums in Columbus Park.

The Chairwoman stated that they are not aware of any current plans to build apartments or condominiums in Columbus Park.

Frank Calandriello from the public stated that if the application is submitted to the Planning Board that they consider putting basketball courts and tennis courts.

The Chairwoman asked for a motion to close the public session regarding this application.

Motion to Close the Public Session

Moved: Councilman, Romi Herrera
Second: Gracie Williams

Councilman, Romi Herrera – Aye
Chairwoman, Lou Ann Visotcky – Aye
Vice Chairman, Michael Wisnovsky - Aye
Gracie Williams - Aye
James Clark – Aye
Peter Santacroce, 1st Alternate
Motion Approved.

The Chairwoman asked for a motion to close the meeting.

Motion to close meeting.

Moved: Councilman, Romi Herrera
Second: James Clark

Councilman, Romi Herrera – Aye
Chairwoman, Lou Ann Visotcky – Aye
Vice Chairman, Michael Wisnovsky - Aye
Gracie Williams - Aye
James Clark – Aye
Peter Santacroce, 1st Alternate
Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Alyssa A. Cimino
Planning Board Secretary

Approved at the meeting on July 22, 2021.



ALYSSA A. CIMINO
Planning Board Secretary