

VILLAGE OF FREEVILLE
PLANNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 26, 2023

A regular meeting of the Village Planning Board was scheduled at the Village Hall, 5 Factory Street, Freeville, NY on Thursday, October 26, 2023.

Present were: Chairman Justin DiMatteo, Member Melanie Allen, Member Tom Cavataio and Member Ryan Maher.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Chairman DiMatteo.

Member Maher made a motion to approve the minutes from 7/27/2023; Member Allen seconded the motion, and all Members voted aye.

Chairman DiMatteo made a motion to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting on 9/19/2023; Member Cavataio seconded the motion, and all Members voted aye.

Member Cavataio made a motion to approve the minutes from 9/28/2023; Member Maher seconded the motion, and all Members voted aye.

Members worked on reviewing Planned Unit Developments (PUDs) and looked at various resources for further clarification. One question asked prior was whether PUDs expire; as they are written into the municipal code, it seems they do not. Another question was whether they transfer to new owners; again, since they are written in the code it seems that they are permanent regardless of change of owner. Members had a few new questions to seek clarification on, and will discuss at future meetings.

Members then discussed a request for an Agricultural Data Statement (ADS) from Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services (INHS). Their property, located near the corner of Fall Creek Road and Cook Street, is located within 500 feet of an operating farm in an agricultural district. Because of this, it is necessary that they have an environmental review, which includes an ADS from the Village. The Planning Board will take action on the ADS at their next meeting (rescheduled to December 7). INHS will be invited to attend, as will the adjacent farm owners.

Members then discussed hunting within the Village. There have been reports of hunting in the Village. No Hunting signs have been installed near the Genung Trail, along Route 38.

Members also discussed the possibility of Village residents keeping bees. It is believed that bees would be considered livestock and would fall under LUDC section 345. If being kept for personal/household consumption, beekeeping would be allowed in most zones. If a commercial operation is sought, it would require a Site Plan Review.

It was announced that Diane Eaton has agreed to serve on the Planning Board, to fill the vacant position.

Future meeting agenda items will include updating the draft text of the Comprehensive Plan, improving maps (land use zones, overlay zones and the new flood plain zone), and continuing work on the current land use definitions.

Chairman DiMatteo made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Member Cavataio seconded the motion, and all Members voted Aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.

The November Planning Board meeting was rescheduled due to the Thanksgiving holiday, and will be held on Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Rude
Deputy Clerk
Village of Freeville