

Town of Ridgeway
410 West Ave
Medina NY 14103
Zoning Board of Appeals
Minutes
June 6, 2017

Members Present:

Larry Meyer (Chairman)
Alice Roth
Richard Cichocki
Ray Wendling
Dan Wilson

Others Present:

Tom Fenton
LuAnn Howe
Gary Seever
Dan Pettit
Joleen Bessel
Jason Bessel
Charles Pettit
Karen Overholt
Reg Overholt

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Meyer called the meeting to order with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Meyer called for a motion to approve the agenda for June 6, 2017 as written. Richard Cichocki made the motion; it was seconded by Dan Wilson. All board members agreed the motion was passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Meyer called for a motion to approve the minutes for the May 2, 2017 as written. The motion was made by Dan Wilson and seconded by Alice Roth. All board members agreed the motion was passed.

COMMUNICATION:

Training on June 28th, at the Hoag Library.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business

NEW BUSINESS:

No New Business

PUBLIC HEARING FOR PETTIT FARMS LABOR HOUSING OPENED BY CHAIRMAN MEYER AT 7:10.

Chairman Meyer opened the hearing by giving the zoning setback rules, showing pictures of the parcel from pictometry, and defining the H2A program for all in attendance.

Charlie Pettit took the floor first to explain the legal process a farm has to go through to bring migrant workers in to work the farms. He also gave the cost of travel expenses and visa applications per person that the farm incurs for the season per person.

Larry Meyer expanded on this explanation by saying that each migrant worker is severely vetted by ICE before a visa is approved.

Larry Meyer brought a Letter from the New York Ag and Markets which gives a court hearing where a town ruled against the farm labor housing. The Farmer sent this ruling to appeal with the Agriculture and Markets of New York State. The ruling and letter is attached to these minutes.

LuAnne Howe stated that the property is not the right space for labor housing as it will detract from the "family" environment of the area.

Jason Bessel stated his wife will not feel safe walking down the road that the farm labor housing is on.

There were several heated discussions between people in attendance, so before it could get out of hand Chairman Meyer closed the public hearing at 7:40. He then called for a motion to accept the area variance as written. And as it was a contested hearing he asked for all a Aye or Nay from each member. The motion to accept the variance was made by Richard Cichocki and seconded by Dan Wilson. After each member was asked individually what their vote was. All 5 members in attendance voted yes to the variance.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR KEN INGHAM WAS OPENED BY CHAIRMAN MEYER AT 7:50

There were no persons to contest the variance in attendance. Mr. Meyer closed the meeting at 7:55; and asked for a motion to accept the variance as written. Richard Cichocki made a motion to accept the variance and was seconded by Ray Wendling. All board members agreed and the motion was carried.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: July 11, 2017 As there was no further business, Chairman Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ray Wendling made the motion that was seconded by Alice Roth. All board member agreed the meeting was closed at 8:10.