

Minutes of the **September 6, 2022** meeting of the **Conservation Board of the TOWN OF ORCHARD PARK**, Community Activity Center, 4520 California Road, Orchard Park, New York at 7:00 P.M. Present were the following:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Schechter, Chairman
Bernadette Clabeaux
Daniel Couch, Alternate member
Amy Grosjean
Kyle Witt

EXCUSED: Joseph Liberti, Town Board Liaison
Thomas Jaeger
Melissa Lebedzinski
David Ward

OTHERS PRESENT: Remy C. Orffeo, Acting Planning Coordinator
Harold Fabinsky, Planning Board Chairman
John C. Bailey, Deputy Town Attorney
Rose Messina, Secretary

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. by stating that in accordance with the provisions of the Ethics Law of the Town of Orchard Park it is incumbent upon any Conservation Board member with a financial or business relationship with any petitioner coming before this Board to disclose this relationship and, if warranted, to recuse him or herself from any matter involving the petitioner. Any petitioner coming before this Board who is a relative of, or has a financial or business relationship with, any officer or employee of the Town of Orchard Park, must disclose the nature and extent of such relationship in accordance with the provisions of the ethics law of the Town of Orchard Park.

The Chairman stated that Mr. Couch, the Alternate member, will be voting this evening in the absences of Mr. Jaeger, Ms. Lebedzinski, and Mr. Ward.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ms. Grosjean made a **MOTION**, seconded by Mr. Couch to approve the July 5, 2022 meeting minutes as presented.

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION BEING UNANIMOUS, THE MOTION IS PASSED.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **C.B File #13-22, V/L Sterling Drive, Zoned I-1, (SBL #152.19-1-30), Silver Grove Financial located on the west side of Sterling Drive, south of Windward Drive, Zoned I-1.** The Planning Board recommended that the Town Board approve the Site Plan and Issue a Building Permit to construct a 5,340 Sq. Ft. Office Building at their August 11, 2022 meeting conditioned upon “consulting with the Conservation Board to determine if additional trees can be incorporated into the previously approved Landscape Plan”.

APPEARANCE: Mr. Bill Burke, Alliance Homes’ representative

This project received Conservation Board approval of their proposed Landscaping Plan on 8/11/2022. During the process of the Planning Board Site Plan review, the Board requested that the Conservation Board re-examine the Landscaping Plan and determine if additional trees could be incorporated into the site. The Planning Board approved the project “conditionally” requiring the Conservation Boards review and determination of adding several more trees to the Site Plan.

The members discussed this request at length. It was found that they did not feel a need to review the project a second time. At the Planning Board meeting, the Applicant had appeared willing to plant an additional three (3) trees at the site. However, at this meeting that concession was withdrawn.

Attorney John Bailey stated that the Applicant is not required to plant the additional three (3) trees; this is just on a voluntary basis.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Continued discussion of determining the cost of “pocket parks” and cul de sacs to the Town.

The members continued to discuss this, however, Acting Planning Coordinator Orffeo stated that the two, senior most members are missing from this discussion, Thomas Jaeger and David Ward. He feels it is not right to discuss this or to vote on a motion without them included.

2. Discussion of Street Trees – Board to setup committee, meeting dates and timeline for completion.

Acting Planning Coordinator stated that he will have Ms. Clabeaux, a Botanist, Mr. Jaeger and Mr. Ward meet in the future to discuss “Street Trees” further. He will also provide the selection list of Town Trees, and spoke of a grant that they had been given for trees.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

DATED: 10/3/22

REVIEWED: 10/4/22

Respectfully Submitted
Rosemary M. Messina
Conservation Board Secretary

Richard J. Schechter, Conservation Board Chairman