

PATTERSON TOWN BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING
PATTERSON TOWN HALL
1142 ROUTE 311
PATTERSON, NY 12563

ALTERNATE BOARD MEMBERS

April 22, 2015

MINUTES

PRESENT: MICHAEL GRIFFIN, SUPERVISOR
KEVIN BURNS, COUNCILMAN
PETER DANDREANO, COUNCILMAN
SHAWN ROGAN, COUNCILMAN
ANTOINETTE KOPECK, TOWN CLERK
MICHAEL LIGUORI, TOWN COUNSEL

ABSENT: CHARLES W. COOK, DEPUTY SUPERVISOR

Salute to the Flag and Roll Call.

Supervisor Griffin called the Public Hearing to order at 7:20 p.m. with 20 in attendance.

Mr. Liguori, Town Counsel, read the following legal notice:

Mr. Griffin stated this is to allow various Town Boards to have alternates to the Board, so that if there is a time where they need someone to sit in, they will have that option. Does anyone have any questions, please come up to the microphone.

Ms. Pat Ploeger, Putnam Lake Park District Advisory Board stated how many alternates would there be and would they be required to attend regular meetings to be up to snuff. Will they have the same sort of requirements that a regular Board member would have and do they have full voting privileges, I'm assuming, in the absent of a full Board.

Mr. Burns stated does the law say they have to attend.

Mr. Liguori stated it is when the event occurs that they would be needed. They don't have to go to every single meeting.

Mr. Griffin stated no, but you would hope if they were going to be an alternate they would follow along, so they knew what they were coming to vote on.

Mr. Liguori stated there are some boards where that may be more applicable than others. Let's say the Zoning Board of Appeals where you have an application that is submitted, you would know pretty soon that there may be a conflict. Would it be nice, yes; is it mandated, I don't believe it is.

Mr. Griffin stated and it's just one person.

Ms. Ploeger stated so for our seven member board there would only be one alternate.

Mr. Griffin stated yes. I believe that is the way it is structured.

Ms. Ploeger stated so he or she would vote only in the absence of one member or if in the absence of forum.

Mr. Griffin stated that's a good question.

Mr. Liguori stated that is a good question. The way it reads, each board may designate an alternate member to substitute for a member of their board when such member is unable to participate in an application or matter before their respected board.

Mr. Griffin stated basically it's not if someone can't make a particular meeting then the alternate sits in and votes. It's only if someone is conflicted out, as I understand it.

Ms. Ploeger stated as required by the chairman.

Mr. Liguori stated it is the chair that designates. It says, "the chairperson of each board may designate an alternate member to substitute for a member of their board when such member is unable to participate. Pat's question, I believe, let's say for instance, it doesn't apply to the Town Board, but if there were only two Town Board members would the alternate be entitled to be involved; no. If there was a member that has a conflict and that member is then called upon to step in for someone else, then they would be involved.

Ms. Ploeger stated so it is not in the absence of a core.

Mr. Liguori stated that's right. It's in the event that a particular member is unable to participate in an application or a matter.

Ms. Ploeger stated because of a conflict, not because he or she is on vacation.

Mr. Williams stated I did write this, so let me clarify. It's not just a conflict. If someone goes away on vacation, the chairman can call on someone to fill the seat.

Mr. Liguori stated I was just reading what.....

Mr. Williams stated the way I wrote it, the way the intent is, it's in the absence of a members ability to participate. That is not just a conflict, that's away on vacation, a sickness, etc.

Mr. Rogan stated Mike, are you reading that there is a different way or clearer way of saying that, so the intent is clear.

Mr. Liguori stated Shawn, I didn't study it in great length. I think it's fine. I read it as if you were unable to participate.

Mr. Griffin stated there is some discretion in there for the chair, as well.

Mr. Rogan stated Pat, the adoption of this Local Law doesn't require an alternate member that is at your board's discretion. It has been helpful with Planning and Zoning over the years. Not many times, but it has come up where there were conflicts on certain applications.

Mr. Dandreano stated Pat, do you think this would help your board.

Ms. Ploeger stated with the brief discussion we had, Mike Ercole is here from our board, we thought it was a good idea. My last question is, would this person be then applied (inaudible) be appointed as an alternate or is it just someone that the chair calls out of the community last minute.

Mr. Griffin stated you would have to designate them in advance.

Mr. Burns made a **motion** to close the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Rogan. All In Favor: Aye. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

ANTOINETTE KOPECK, Town Clerk