

**TOWN OF HOPE MILLS  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017, 6:00 P.M.  
PARKS & RECREATION CENTER**

Mayor Jackie Warner called the special meeting of the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners to order on Monday, March 20, 2017 at 6:04 p.m.

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Jackie Warner, Mayor Pro Tem Bob Gorman, Commissioners Pat Edwards, Jerry Legge, and Bryan Marley.

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT.** None.

**STAFF PRESENT**

Town Manager Melissa Adams, Interim Town Clerk Deborah Holland and Planning & Development Administrator Chancer McLaughlin. Also in attendance were Town Attorney Dan Hartzog and Ed Byrne of Cumberland County Planning Board.

The purpose of the special meeting is for the Board to discuss the proposed Sign Ordinance amendments.

Planning & Development Administrator McLaughlin presented the Sign Ordinance amendments. The amendments were as follows:

- Page 2, Section 102A-1402(n) – Sign Definitions. Change: Addition of “banners” and “flag signs” to the definition of Portable Signs.
- Page 3, Section 102A-1402(q) – Sign Definitions. Change: Creation of the definition of “sandwich board” signs.
- Page 4, Section 102A-1403(i) – Exempt Signs. Change: Creation of the definition of “Historical” signs.
- Page 7, Section 102A-1404(k) – Signs Permitted in Any District. Change: Creation of the language for “Temporary Banners.”
- Page 7, Section 102A-1404(I) – Signs Permitted in Any District. Creation of the language for “Sandwich Board Signs.”
- Page 8, Section 102A-1405(C) I – General Site and Sign Specifications. Change: Maximum height for ground signs changed to 30 feet. Corresponding setbacks amended.
- Page 8, Section 102A-1405(c) 2 – General Site and Sign Specifications. Change: Removal of language allowing pole signs to exceed 30 feet.
- Page 14, Section 102A-1408(g) – Signs Prohibited. Change: Addition of language tied to portable signs.

As Mr. McLaughlin was reviewing the amendment to page 4 regarding the creation of the definition of Historical signs, Mayor Pro Tem Gorman inquired if it had anything to do with placards. Mr. McLaughlin responded with an example of a restaurant in the Trade Street area with a placard explaining the historical significance of the building as it was once a Blacksmith

Shop. Mr. McLaughlin commented that he hoped to receive an approval of the recommendation to send the amendments to the Cumberland County Planning Board. Attorney Hartzog commented that we may need to tweak some of the language for political signs.

*Motion made by Commissioner Edwards, seconded by Commissioner Legge and carried unanimously, to send the revised sign ordinance for review/approval of recommendation to the Cumberland County Planning Board.*

Mr. McLaughlin commented that the Planning Board meeting, including a public hearing, is on May 16, 2017. The meeting to discuss the proposed adoption of the final ordinance amendments is set for June 19, 2017. Mr. McLaughlin inquired of Town Attorney Hartzog whether we could waive the requirement for a Special Use Permit for the offsite directional sign on Trade Street. Attorney Hartzog responded that it would be okay to waive the Special Use Permit.

*Motion made by Commissioner Edwards, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gorman and carried unanimously, to waive the requirement of a Special Use Permit for the Trade Street Directional Sign.*

Commissioner Edwards inquired whether the Town or the businesses would be purchasing the inserts for the Trade Street Sign. Mr. McLaughlin responded that the businesses will purchase the inserts but all will be uniform in size and appearance. Commissioner Marley commented that the Chamber should be added to the Trade Street directional sign and required to remove their existing directional signs. Commissioner Legge inquired if the sign will be lit or solar. Mr. McLaughlin commented that it was still undecided but there are several solar options available. Discussion pursued regarding the duration of time granted for a sign to come into compliance. The Board ultimately decided to grandfather a sign over 100 feet and as ownership changes; the new owner would be subject to the ordinances.

*Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Gorman, seconded by Commissioner Legge and carried unanimously, to adjourn the meeting.*

Mayor Warner adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

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Jackie Warner, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Deborah Holland  
Interim Town Clerk

Volume 29  
Special Meeting  
March 20, 2017