Topic: Local Boards; Mandatory Training

Resource Type:RegulationsState:New YorkJurisdiction Type:Municipal

Municipality: Town of La Grange

Year (adopted, written, etc.): 2005

Community Type – applicable to: Suburban; Rural

Title: Town of La Grange Training Requirements

for Planning Board Members Ordinance

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Abstract

This law requires land use training for planning board members in The Town of La Grange. This law also enumerates other powers and duties of the Planning Board.

Resource

La Grange Town Code § 43-3. Powers and duties.

- A. The Planning Board shall have and exercise the following powers and duties:
 - (1) To make investigations and reports relating to the planning of the Town and its future growth and affording adequate facilities for the housing, transportation, distribution, comfort, convenience, safety, health and welfare of its population. [Amended 6-22-2005 by L.L. No. 4-2005]
 - (2) To approve all plats showing any streets or highways within the Town. See also Ch. 203, Subdivision of Land.
 - (3) To approve or disapprove changes in the lines of existing streets, highways or public areas shown on subdivision plats or maps filed in the County Clerk's office.
 - (4) To approve or disapprove the laying out, closing off or abandonment of such streets, highways or public areas under and subject to the provisions of the Town and Highway Laws.
 - (5) Simultaneously with the approval of any such plat, to confirm and make changes in the zoning regulations, if any, applicable to the land included in any such plat, in accordance with the provisions of § 281 of the Town Law and amendments thereto. Editor's Note: See now § 278 of the Town Law.

- B. The Planning Board shall also exercise all other powers conferred upon it by the provisions of the Town Law and shall pass upon all matters which may be referred to it from time to time by resolution of the Town Board. Editor's Note: By resolution of January 8, 1973, the Planning Board was also given the power to approve preliminary plats in the Town of LaGrange. Said resolution read in part as follows: "WHEREAS, because of an amendment to § 276 of Town Law, effective January 2, 1973, the Town of LaGrange Planning Board requires specific authority to approve preliminary plats within that part of the Town outside any incorporated city or village; and "WHEREAS giving the Planning Board an option to require a subdivider to submit a preliminary plat is desirable for protection of the public interest in land subdivision; now therefore be it "RESOLVED that the Town of LaGrange Planning Board shall have the power to approve preliminary plats within the Town of LaGrange, outside the limits of any incorporated city or village in accordance with the requirements of §§ 276, 277 and 278, Article 16 of the Town Law as amended; and be it further "RESOLVED that this authority supplements the authority to approve plats granted the Planning Board by resolution of March 3, 1955; and be it further "RESOLVED that the Town Clerk shall file with the Clerk of the County of Dutchess a certificate, certifying that said Planning Board has been authorized to review and approve preliminary plats as well as final plats for new subdivisions of land in the Town of LaGrange in accordance with §§ 276, 277 and 278, Article 16, as amended, of the Town Law." It shall conduct hearings and perform its duties in accordance with such procedure as provided in §§ 272 to 281, inclusive, of the Town Law and acts amendatory thereof. Editor's Note: See now §§ 271 through 281 of the Town Law.
- C. Training requirements. The State of New York has recognized the importance of training for members of the Planning Board in § 267 of the Town Law. [Added 10-23-2002 by L.L. No. 8-2002]
 - (1) Each member of the Planning Board shall be required to attend a minimum of one hour of training relevant to the responsibilities of the Board within one year of appointment to such Board, and a minimum of one hour of additional training in each calendar year succeeding the year of appointment. Prospective Board members shall be advised of these requirements.
 - (2) Noncompliance with the Town's minimum requirements for training shall be a proper cause for removal from office pursuant to Town Law § 267(9).
 - (3) The costs of training shall be a Town charge, and members of the Planning Board shall be reimbursed for the cost of the training, provided such training and attendant costs have been approved in advance by the Town Board.
 - (4) Approved training courses. Training sessions which relate to the duties of members of the Planning Board may include programs offered by the New York Department of State, the New York State Association of Towns, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the Dutchess County

or Westchester County Planning Federations or other appropriate entities. The Town Board, after consultation with the Chairperson of the Planning Board, may annually designate training courses which will meet the Town's training requirements.

(5) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the failure of a member of the Planning Board to obtain the required training shall not, absent Town Board action, affect that member's appointment to serve on the Board, to entertain and vote on applications or the validity of that member's acts as a Board member.