

WALES TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
PUBLIC HEARING FOR INTERPRETATION OF AN ORDINANCE  
DEALING WITH DIFFERENT TYPES OF ANIMALS NOT ADDRESSED IN  
CURRENT ZONING ORANDIANCE  
JULY 27, 2006

Hearing opened by Chairman John Minor at 7:30 P.M.

Present: John Minor, Dave Shannon, Terry Maki, Larry Zalut, and Richard Hart. Absent: Ron Lepak. Also present: Township Board Representative Larry Thomson Trustee, Rec. Sec. Marie J. Muller and 4 persons.

Chairman J. Minor gave statement of procedures. Township letter was read requesting this public hearing for clarification of ordinance Article 4, Section 4.02. explaining that a resident approached the Board of Trustees asking to raise Alpacas, which are not identified in Ordinance. Township Board representative Larry Thomson had no further statement than the letter submitted.

Several papers were presented by resident Charles Green, who had initially initiated this inquiry, showing scientific certification, which indicated species, identification. Species, Lama Guamico, Genus Bicuigna. Q- J. Minor, do you have any other documentation to support that this has been accepted? A- C. Green read from an article of History of Scientific names by Dr. Hoffmans in agreement with previous findings. Q- Marshall Runnals 2934 Dunning Road asked is hearing to allow alpacas and lamas? A- J. Minor explained this hearing is only to clarify and make an interpretation of the ordinance addressing animals. J. Minor reminded board that it would not be unreasonable to consider the weight of the animal in qualifying. Also to consider what Mr. Green presented as if this species is now accepted by the scientific community. We are not at this time addressing a variance issue that originally initiated this clarification from the township board. Public hearing closed at 8:17 P. M. Discussion by board followed. T. Maki noted that we need to determine if we are treating Lamas and Alpacas as the same or different. That in itself would make them unique. But then no where does it say how many at 1,000 pound weight. J. Minor, so addendum allows liberal interpretation. If we don't list amounts then you could have more on property than standard listed. T. Maki, so the question is how many? L. Zalut, it's ok if we are dealing with same animal. But we could have other situations. R. Hart, nothing is allowed in zoning for under 5 acres. J. Minor, the reasoning for that was hobby farming or 4-H projects. J. Minor, so is Alpaca a Lama or Lama an Alpaca? T. Maki, I would consider an Alpaca a relative to a Lama. J. Minor, then we can consider this as a Lama? But if Alpaca is not a Lama then addendum comes into play. Clearly when ordinance was written the addendum tried to address sufficient acreage to sustain certain animals. Meaning animals greater than what chart shows. L. Zalut, so do we want to address this from the point of definition or from a weight issue? I consider a Lama not an Alpaca. D. Shannon, this could also cover small dairy cattle which don't meet the 1000 pounds weight. J. Minor, we might want to consider just how the scientific classification comes into play, or is it reasonable to use only weight as criteria. Motion by Terry Maki, for sake of our table that we treat the Alpaca as a Lama. Three times Chairman J. Minor asked for support. Motion not

supported motion failed for lack of support. Motion by Terry Maki, that Alpacas be treated as stated in addendum Article 4.02 3 D using weight as determining factor, support Dave Shannon. Roll Call Vote: Terry Maki, yes, Dave Shannon yes, Richard Hart, yes, Larry Zalut, yes, John Minor, yes, motion carried. The determination of this court is that for those animals not on table list then weight is determining factor. Hearing adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie J. Muller  
ZBA Recording Secretary