



**TOWN OF SOMERS  
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 10, 2022  
7:00 PM SOMERS TOWN HALL**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hills at 7:00 P.M.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Dean Hills, Doug Stebbins, Joseph Marinaccio, Dan Thayer, Ralph Williams, Susan Peck

Members Absent: B.J. Ferro, Andrew Rockett

Audience: Brian Balcer, Thomas Beggs, James Ivanicki

**III. PUBLIC HEARING**

The legal notice was read into the record by Chair Hills:

#ZBA22-005 Austin Bessette, 124 South Road, Somers; seeking a variance from Section 214-6.3 A of the Somers Code concerning Horses and Ponies, structure setback requirement of 100' (one hundred feet) from all property lines for buildings housing horses, to install a 12' x 20' horse barn 65' (sixty-five feet) from the northern and southern side property lines in the A-1 Residential Zone

Chair Hills noted that Proof of Notification of Abutters had been done.

Mr. Bessette gave his presentation to the board, stating that although the lot acreage is large enough to permit horses the shape of the lot does not allow him to meet the side setback requirements of 100 Ft. for a structure to house horses. It was noted that the shed that would be used to house the horse is already in place on the property and that it was legally installed as a shed under Somers zoning regulations, not as a structure to house horses. A letter confirming that from Somers ZEO Jennifer Roy was read into the record during correspondence.

Brian Balcer of 124 South Road, an abutter, stated he did not oppose the granting of the variance.

Thomas Beggs of 81 Plymouth Road, an abutter, had questions about the variance which were answered to his satisfaction.

ZBA member Dan Thayer informed Mr. Bessette of zoning regulations with regard to horse manure that would need to be followed if the variance is granted.

**IV. PUBLIC HEARING DISCUSSION/DECISION**

It was moved (Williams) and seconded (Thayer) that the request of Austin Bessette for a

variance from the Somers zoning regulations' setback requirements to allow keeping of a Horse at 124 South Road be approved with the following stipulations:

No more than one horse shall be kept on the property at any time.

The owner, at all times, shall comply with the zoning regulations' requirements for the keeping of a horse, particularly with the regards to storage and removal of manure.

Motion carried, 4-1 (Hills, Marinaccio, Stebbins, Williams in favor, Thayer opposed.).

**V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**VI. CORRESPONDENCE & BILLS**

A letter from Somers ZEO Jennifer, dated 4/25/22, was read into the record by Dan Thayer (See attachment).

**VII. MINUTES APPROVAL**

It was moved (Thayer) and seconded (Williams) to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2022 regular meeting.

Motion carried, 4-0-1 (Hills, Stebbins, Thayer, Williams in favor, Marinaccio abstained).

It was moved (Stebbins) and seconded (Marinaccio) to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2022 regular meeting with the following correction:

Meeting Date of *February 12, 2022* changed to *April 12, 2022*.

Motion carried 4-0-1 (Hills, Marinaccio, Thayer, Williams in favor, Stebbins abstained).

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved (Stebbins) and seconded (Williams) to adjourn the May 10, 2022 regular ZBA meeting.

Motion approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dean Hills  
Chair-Somers ZBA

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT CONSIDERED OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.