

**TOWN OF SOMERS - ZONING COMMISSION**  
Special Meeting Minutes – May 18, 2020 TELECONFERENCE

**Meeting ID: 873 8263 8245**

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 6:34pm. Members present: Jill Conklin, Chairperson, Karl Walton, Lucas Cherry, Dan Fraro, and Paige Rasid. Also present, Jennifer Roy, Staff Liaison

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. #20-004: Mark and Karen Murdoch, 24 Gulf Road, Somers, CT. Proposed text amendment to Somers Zoning Regulations sections 214-4 Definitions, 214-44 Prohibited uses, 214-87 Alcoholic Beverages and 214-98 Schedule of permitted uses; to allow Farm Winery/Brewery as a permitted use in all zones.

Mark and Karen Murdoch spoke on the application; they agree with the proposed text.

Karl Walton commented on the text wording, he feels further discussions are warranted.

Sean Clark, 78 Beaver Road, Wethersfield, Attorney for the Murdoch's; asked that they have the opportunity to review the revisions made to the text.

George Schober, 98 Rocky Dundee, Somers – opposed to this text amendment, and specifically for a winery at Worthington Pond. Attorney Schober submitted the following for the record: Exhibits: Exhibit 1 - Draft Zoning Regs, Exhibit 2 - Planimetrics agreement, Exhibit 3 - Planimetrics invoice, Exhibit 4 – emails, Exhibit 5 - SEEEC agreement, Exhibit 6 – article, exhibit 7 - text amend public hearing Facebook Post 11-2019,

Ken Prior, 364 Mountain Road, Somers – opposed, submits and article from the Journal Inquirer for the record.

Michelle Prior, 364 Mountain Road, Somers - opposed

Greg Altieri, 55 Root Road, Somers – in favor

Eleanor Lebine, 9 Mountain Road, Somers – strongly opposed

Tom Nesbit, 9 Mountain Road, Somers – opposed

Sean Clark commented regarding state regulations for farm wineries.

George Schober commented regarding prohibiting any other commercial activity, such as receptions.

Ken Prior, 364 Mountain Road, Somers – suggests this just be allowed in the industrial zone.

Jennifer Roy read emailed comments into the record, from those both in favor and opposition.

Karl Walton comments that he feels they will use a blend of proposed text as was as some from the draft regulations.

Jennifer Roy commented on the proposed text, that she along with the assistance of Jeff Bord prepared this, at the request of the commission during prior meeting.

Discussions were held.

Karl Walton made a motion to continue the public hearing to June 22, 6:30pm, and add this to the June 1<sup>st</sup> regular agenda for discussion only. Lucas Cherry seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT Karl Walton made a motion to adjourn, Paige Rasid seconded, all in favor meeting adjourned at 7:53pm.

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING Video of this meeting can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCitLJvpaGg5rGsVVbsUYK8A>