

TOWN OF SOMERS - ZONING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, June 6, 2022 6:30pm



CALL TO ORDER: 6:35pm Members present: Jill Conklin, Chris Locatelli, and Karl Walton. Also present: Jennifer Roy, Staff Liaison
Absent: Jim Formica, Doug Ferro, and alternate Doug Ferro.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Application #22-001: Sarah Papale, 72 Billings Road, Somers; seeking a Special Use permit to operate a commercial dog kennel for the boarding of up to 4 dogs, per section 214-3.3C (4) (a) of the Somers Zoning Regulations, in the A-1 Residential Zone.

Sarah Papale present to speak on the application. Ms. Papale has 3 dogs of her own, and would like to board/kennel up to 4 dogs. There will be approximately 1 acre area fenced for when the dogs are put out to run.

Jennifer Roy provided written correspondence from:

Pauline Spingola, 68 Billings Road, Somers – opposed, written list of concerns.

Marilyn Guimond, 72 Billings Road, Somers – opposed to signage, neutral on kennels.

Public comments:

Pauline Spingola, 68 Billings Road, Somers – addressed the commission, elaborated concerns

Reginald Spingola, 68 Billings Road, Somers – opposed

Catherine Janssen, 70 Billings Road, Somers – in favor

Discussion followed regarding licensing required by the State for commercial kennels. Jennifer Roy shared what she found on the Dept. of Agriculture's website; and confirmed with the Somers Animal Control Officer.

Karl Walton confirmed the commission would be in support of Ms. Roy signing an application for the Dept. of Ag., stating that this property would be in compliance with the Zoning Regulations.

Further discussion held regarding updating the site plan to show outdoor fenced area. Karl Walton advised Ms. Papale that a final as-built site plan would be required if the Special Use permit was approved.

Jill Conklin made a motion to continue the public hearing for application #22-001 Sarah Papale, to the next regularly scheduled meeting on July 5, 2022 at 6:30pm. Chris Locatelli seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

STAFF REPORT Jennifer Roy advised the commission that the Board of Selectmen voted to enact an ordinance prohibiting the recreational use of cannabis and the micro-cultivation.

Under staff report, Ms. Roy requested feedback from the commission members regarding the service of food at Worthington Winery. Ms. Roy explained a complaint was received, alleging a restaurant is being operated out of the tasting room. Discussion was held, Ms. Roy shared the definition of restaurant and tea room from Somers Zoning Regulations. Further, Ms. Roy shared that the Murdoch's have confirmed that the chef who is on site preparing a few various food choices is not an employee of Worthington Winery.

It was a general consensus of the members present that the few food items offered does not constitute a restaurant.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 2, 2022; Jill Conklin made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Chris Locatelli seconded. Karl Walton abstained, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Jill Conklin made a motion to adjourn, Chris Locatelli seconded, all in favor, meeting adjourned 7:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Roy

*****MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED A SUBSEQUENT MEETING*****