

PLANNING BOARD MINUTES AUGUST 9TH, 2023

The meeting of the Planning Board of the Borough of Somerville was called to order by Chairman Bernard Navatto at 7:00 PM and stated that adequate notice of this meeting had been provided in accordance with the “Open Public Meetings Act”.

Board Members Present: Deidre Rosinski, Councilman Roger Vroom, Andrea Adair, Arthur Akins, Jason Kraska, Al Kerestes, Larry Cleveland

Board Members Absent: Bernard Navatto, Mayor Dennis Sullivan, Christopher Adickes, Lisa Werner

Professional Present: Kara Kaczynski, Esq. Board Attorney and Michael Cole, Board Planner and Engineer

Approval Minutes

Upon a motion by Jason Kraska, seconded by Al Kerestes, the minutes of July 26th, 2023, were approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call Aye: Deidre Rosinski, Councilman Roger Vroom, Jason Kraska, Al Kerestes, Larry Cleveland

Nay: None

Abstain: Andrea Adair, Arthur Akins

See transcript.

Items not on the Agenda

Board member Deidre Rosinski spoke to the board about a recent ordinance that was passed in Maplewood in an area that has been zoned with a historic overlay. This ordinance allows residents to convert accessory dwellings such as garages and barns into living spaces – Mrs. Rosinski went on to explain that this may be something that the board would like to look at as a means of giving residents another option in terms of housing.

See transcript.

Kara Kaczynski, Esq. Board Attorney provided the board with an update on a Bridgewater application that will now be moved into January.

See transcript.

Chairman’s Comments

No comments.

Meeting Open to the Public

Member of the Public Art Adair discussed several topics with the board including, the PO-R Zone, residential parking, the suggestion to have the zoning officer's attendance to meetings be mandatory, floor area ration, and the potential to rezone the northern side of 2nd street.

See transcript.

Adjourn

Upon a motion by Al Kerestes, seconded by Andrea Adair, the adjournment of the planning board meeting of August 9th, 2023, was unanimously approved upon a roll call vote.

Roll Call Deidre Rosinski, Councilman Roger Vroom, Andrea Adair, Arthur Akins, Jason Kraska, Al Kerestes, Larry Cleveland

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.