

JULY 10, 2014 – PUBLIC HEARING

Minutes of a public hearing of the Town Board of the Town of Somers held on Thursday evening July 10, 2014 at 7:10 PM at the Town House, 335 Route 202, Somers, New York.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT:	Supervisor	Rick Morrissey
	Councilman	Richard G. Clinchy
	Councilman	Thomas A. Garrity, Jr.
	Councilman	Anthony J. Ciriaco
	Councilman	William G. Faulkner

ABSENT:

Also present were Kathleen R. Pacella, Town Clerk, Patricia Kalba, Deputy Town Clerk and Roland A. Baroni, Jr., Town Attorney.

The Supervisor said that this public hearing was a continuation of the proposed Local Law to amend Chapter 170 entitled Zoning, Section 170-13 Multifamily Residence MFR Districts from June 12, 2014. He explained that this was held along with the public hearing to amend the 1994 Comprehensive Master Plan which they closed at the June 12, 2014 meeting. He said that public hearing was closed because a second public hearing was required to be scheduled with regard to that amendment. The Supervisor continued that they did leave a ten day written comment period open with regard to the amendment to the 1994 Comprehensive Master Plan. He said that the ten day period was closed at that point and comments were received. He said that evening the Town Board was going to continue taking comments with regard to the proposed Local Law to amend Chapter 170 entitled Zoning, Section 170-13 Multifamily Residence MFR Districts.

The Supervisor declared the hearing open and asked for comments from the public.

Marilyn Glotzer, Mahopac Avenue, stated that some of the residents in her area were devastated by the storm. She said that she did not know if the Town Board was aware of the damages. She explained that it went through the area of the horse farm, the street was closed for an entire day and a lot of trees were gone. Ms. Glotzer said that her heart went out to the people who were affected by the storm. She said with regard to the proposed Local Law she was opposed to the changes. She said that she believed that a study needed to take place to see why they wanted to change the Zoning Laws. Ms. Glotzer said that when those laws were originally changed everyone was a part of the entire conversation and in on the discussions with regard to the Comprehensive Master Plan. She said that the idea was that the Hamlet was going to take care of all of the needs that the Town sought. She urged the Board to study this carefully, there was a Hamlet taking place currently and they knew that was for the betterment of the Community. Ms. Glotzer said they have people coming to the Town asking for the Master Plan and Zoning Laws to be changed for additional housing before they knew if there was a need for this housing. She said that the Town of Somers was a beautiful place and asked if there was no place else that they could put additional housing if it was needed other than on Route 6 on the corner of Mahopac Avenue. She said that she was concerned for the Watershed property in that area and now with the loss of the trees she was even more concerned.

The Supervisor said for the record the parcel that they were discussing was not on the corner of Route 6 and Mahopac Avenue, it was further down the road.

Ms. Francoise Bennett, Co-President of the Somers League of Women Voters and resident of Heritage Hills, read a prepared statement with regard to their concerns and support of the proposed changes. She said that the Town needed affordable housing and this was the ideal location for such housing because of its close proximity to public transportation and shopping.

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Thereupon motion of Supervisor Morrissey, seconded by Councilman Ciriaco, the public hearing was declared closed at 7:20 PM.

Town Clerk