

TOWN of RIDGEFIELD PUBLIC HEARING & BOARD of SELECTMEN MEETING

MAY 10, 2017

TOWN HALL/LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM – 7:30 P.M.

UNREVISED/APPROVED MINUTES

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim transcription.

In attendance: R. Marconi, M. Kozlark, B Manners, S. Zemo, R. Hebert

7:30 pm Public Hearing on Proposed Changes to Livestock Ordinance

R. Marconi called the Public Hearing to order at 7:30 p.m.

Speakers

1. Paula Cipot Schmidt, 43 Parley Rd.- has lived here 52 years and has always had ponies. She has three daughters who were raised with ponies. Asked for grandfathering in the revised ordinance. Submitted a letter to the BOS. Willing to serve on committee - AGAINST
2. Joseph Giaccone, 79 Manor Rd.- Owner of Property in question and renter to family with horses. Read statement about current lease and a letter he received from the Health Department - AGAINST
3. Steven Strieter, 79 Manor Rd.- (Owner of horse in question) stated that he has a proper, above average shelter for the horses. He stated he is completely within the law; the Health Department has reviewed the situation 12 times - AGAINST
4. Mario Giannettino,- 2 Manor Rd. an attorney, stated the acreage is questionable. "Draft is least restrictive." - FOR
5. Brian Hoey, 71 Manor Rd. - FOR
6. Marzena Piwko, 224 Pine Mountain Rd. - AGAINST
7. Kate Sheafe, 5 Lewis Dr. - FOR
8. Christopher Coles, 12 7th Lane (Horse Professional on U.S. Olympic team; has 40 horses in North Salem, NY on 20 acres; 1/2 acre per horse; 8' setback (horse has about a 4' reach)) - AGAINST
9. Dr. Jeffrey Hubsher 239 Ridgebury Rd.- Veterinarian. Moved here for horses. Can there be a compromise? He talked to the owner of the horses 1) use shed; 2) raise fence; 3) reduce number of horses - AGAINST
10. Patricia Kuehner, 384 West Lane (Horse Professional) - AGAINST
11. Dennis Peterson, 60 Powdermaker Dr. - FOR
12. Tom Pesce, 32 Lewis Dr.- Gave overview of neighborhood situation; does not agree with compromise; current situation is unsafe and therefore unfair; suggested give backs: 1.5 acre reduce to 1 acre, 15' setbacks - FOR
13. Marsha Nichols, 4 Lewis Dr. - FOR
14. Janine Peterson, 60 Powdermaker Dr. - FOR
15. Paul Gervais, 18 Fairfield Court - FOR

16. Sara Kessler, 53 Manor Rd. - FOR
17. Michael Breede, 35 Golf Lane - NEUTRAL
18. Nancy Hulnick, 72 Golf Lane - FOR
19. Robin Augustadt, 61 Olmstead Ln - AGAINST
20. Mike Schmidt, 43 Parley Rd. – AGAINST

- Many horseowners do not want their rights to own infringed upon because of one situation by one owner.
- Some supporters believe the ordinance should apply to the full town not just the “town area”.
- Residents of area in question believe the neighborhood should be solely residential.
- Horse professionals willing to help fix the problem before an ordinance changes their rights.
- Smell is most noted factor that prevents neighbors from enjoying their property.
- Calls for compromise before change of ordinance.

7:30 pm Board of Selectman Meeting

R. Marconi called the Board of Selectman Meeting to order immediately following the Public Hearing at 8:57 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

2. Youth Commission Interview: Emily Furfaro

Emily Furfaro was not present at the meeting. Her interview will be rescheduled for a later date.

3. Ridgefield Arts Council Interview: Vincent Conyers

S. Zemo moved and M. Kozlark seconded a motion to appoint Vincent Conyers to a position on the Ridgefield Arts Council. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Vendor Permit Renewals:

Chez Lenard – Mike Principi

S. Zemo moved and B. Manners seconded a motion to renew Mike Principi’s permit for Chez Lenard. Motion passed 5-0.

Circusman – Enver & Elif Ceylan

Issue discussed about parking for extended periods in front of Ballard Park, especially during concerts in the park.

B. Manners moved and M. Kozlark seconded a motion to renew the Ceylan’s permit for

Circusman. Motion passed 5-0.

Zawack Shack – Greg & Joan Zawacki

B. Manners moved and S. Zemo seconded a motion to renew the Zawacki's permit for the Zawack Shack. Motion passed 5-0.

5. 729 North Salem Road Rent Increase Approval

R. Hebert moved and S. Zemo seconded a motion to approve the 729 North Salem Road rent increase. Motion passed 5-0.

6. Parks & Recreation CHIRP Concert Parking Alternatives – Paul Roche, Maureen Kozlark

Discussion on many alternatives led by M. Kozlark. Decision yet to be made.

7. 13b Certification for Elderly & Disabled Grant Program

B. Manners moved and R. Hebert seconded a motion to approve the Town's participation in the HARTransit elderly and disabled dial-a-ride program, assigning its grant apportionment from the State program to HART who will coordinate the operation of service. Motion passed 5-0.

8. Approval of Tax Refunds

B. Manners moved and R. Hebert seconded a motion to approve tax refunds. Motion passed 5-0.

9. Selectman's Report

- Memorial Day Parade Events
- Year End Storm Data
- Schlumberger Tenants and Additional Construction on Property
- Conservation Commission's Recommendations on the Horse Ordinance

R Hebert moved and B Manners seconded a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting at 10:05 pm. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Blaze Mazur