

APPROVED/REVISED MINUTES PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION Zoom Webinar Meeting Public Hearing

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

February 9, 2021	Present:	Susan Consentino Joseph Dowdell Joseph Fossi George Hanlon Robert Hendrick John Katz Rebecca Mucchetti, Chair
		John Katz Rebecca Mucchetti, Chair Ben Nneji Charles Robbins, Vice Chair

Also Present: Richard Baldelli, Director, Planning and Zoning, ZEO Karen Martin, Town Planner Eileen White, Recording Secretary

I. Call to Order

Chair Mucchetti called the Public Hearing to Order at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom Webinar. She gave an overview of the Agenda and the aspects of Zoom Webinar procedures.

To correct misinformation posted on social media, Ms. Mucchetti stated that the Public Hearing was focused on two revisions to existing regulations for Accessory Dwelling Units that have existed since 2003, not on creating new regulations.

Chair Mucchetti also stated that the application for **110 North Salem Road** had been withdrawn and would not be on tonight's agenda.

II. Public Hearing:

1. #A-21-1: Regulation amendment Application per Section 9.2.B of the Town of Ridgefield Zoning Regulations to amend Section 3.3.B.e.i and 3.3.B.2.ii proposing expanding Accessory Dwelling Unit opportunities. *Commission initiated*.

2021-2-9



Ms. Martin read the Legal Notice.

Mr. Baldelli gave a history of the existing Accessory Dwelling Unit ("ADU") regulations and the reasons behind presenting two revisions to the regulations. The first revision would expand the square footage of the ADU's from 900 square feet to 1200 square feet. The second revision would permit a second bedroom for the ADU. He explained that this recommendation came from calls to the Planning and Zoning Department from more Ridgefielders requesting to have their parents live with them.

Mr. Baldelli furthered that he could not recall one single violation complaint in the last 17 years, since the ADU regulation was first created.

Comments from Commissioners consisted of the proposed revisions being too general and the need to research what nearby Towns have in place for their Accessory Dwelling Units.

Under Technical Correspondence, Mr. Dave Goldenberg, Chair of the Affordable Housing Committee read into the Record his letter in support of the regulation revisions. Mr. Goldenberg said that another bedroom in an ADU would allow single mothers with their child and other small families to stay in Ridgefield. Mr. Goldenberg said that the regulation changes would help to offset Connecticut's long-standing housing shortage.

Public comments were taken from the following citizens:

Ms. Lori Mazzola Mr. Joe Shapiro Ms. Brittney Crystal Ms. Tracey O'Connor Ms. Jeanmarie McLean who sent an e-mail on February 8, 2021 Ms. Catherine Savoca Ms. Barbara Soldano Ms. Lynn Noyes Mr. Thomas Olkoski Mr. Michael Schmer Ms. Sheryl Knapp Hon John Frey could not join due to technical difficulty

Comments and questions included how the proposed regulation revisions would affect the procedure for ADU applications. Mr. Baldelli said that the procedure for applications would remain the same, with each department having to approve the application for the application to go through.

Hearing no further discussion, the Chair adjourned the Public Hearing at 9:09 p.m.

2021-2-9



The Public Hearing closed at: 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen White



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Also Present: Richard Baldelli, Director, Planning and Zoning, ZEO Karen Martin, Town Planner Eileen White, Recording Secretary

Chair Mucchetti called the Meeting to Order at 9:09 p.m. via Zoom Webinar.

I. Discussion:

1. IHZ discussion. % Westport Chair

Ms. Danielle Dobin, Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission of Westport and Ms. Michelle Perillee, Deputy Director of Planning, Town of Westport gave a Power Point presentation of Westport's Inclusionary Housing Zone (IHZ) procedure.

The presentation included Westport's plans to revitalize the Downtown area, requiring buildings to be 20% inclusionary and how an affordability plan must be submitted with an application to the Town of Westport.

Ms. Dobin stated that the concept is to develop inclusionary housing zones without going through 8-30g.

2. #A-21-1: Regulation amendment Application per Section 9.2.B of the Town of Ridgefield Zoning Regulations to amend Section 3.3.B.e.i and 3.3.B.2.ii proposing expanding Accessory Dwelling Unit opportunities. *Commission initiated*.

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This matter will be scheduled for Discussion at the February 23, 2021 Agenda.

II: New Submissions:

1. **#VDC-21-1:** Village District Application per Section 8.3 and Sec.5.1.B. of the Town of Ridgefield Zoning Regulations for a two illuminated building sign "Fairfield County Bank" for a property located at **3 Governor Street** in the CBD Zone. *Owner: Fairfield County Bank. Applicant:Robert R. Jewell, Esq.. For receipt.*

Attorney Jewell stated that the VDC had approved the application on February 9, 2021.

Mr. Katz motioned, Mr. Fossi seconded, to Receive and Schedule Discussion at the February 23, 2021 Meeting. Motion carried 9-0. Members agreed to individual site visits.

 #FP-21-1: Site Plan Application for development in the Floodplain per Section 11. of the Town of Ridgefield Zoning Regulations to construct 2,120 feet of 8 feet wide combined-use walk path along Ligi Way and Farmingville Road located at 45 South Street. Owner: Town of Ridgefield. /Applicant: Tory Sidoti. For receipt and scheduling a sitewalk.

Mr. Fossi motioned, Mr. Katz seconded, to Receive and Schedule Discussion at the February 23, 2021 Meeting. Motion carried 9-0. Members agreed to individual site visits.

III: Correspondence None.

IV: Approval of Minutes:

• **PZC meeting-** January 26, 2020

Mr. Katz motioned, Mr. Fossi seconded, to approve as amended. Motion carried 9-0.

• Sitewalk-February 07, 2021

Mr. Fossi motioned, Mr. Katz seconded, to approve. Motion carried 7-2. Ms. Consentino and Mr. Hendrick abstained.



V: Adjourn

Hearing no further discussion, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen White