

NEWINGTON TOWN PLAN AND ZONING COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

December 11, 2019

Chairman Pane called the regular meeting of the Newington Town Plan and Zoning Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room L101 in the Newington Town Hall, 131 Cedar Street, Newington, Connecticut.

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**II. ROLL CALL AND SEATING OF ALTERNATES**

Commissioners Present

Chairman Domenic Pane  
Commissioner Anthony Claffey  
Commissioner Michael Fox  
Commissioner Garrett Havens  
Commissioner David Lenares  
Commissioner Stanley Sobieski  
Commissioner Braverman-A (7:10)  
Commissioner Thomas Gill-A  
Commissioner Bryan Haggerty-A

Commissioners Absent

Commissioner Stephen Woods

Staff Present

Craig Minor, Town Planner  
Andrew Armstrong, Asst. Town Planner/ZEO

Commissioner Haggerty was seated for Commissioner Woods

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Craig Minor: There is an amended agenda on the table when you come in, which includes under New Business to discuss the old POCD. That is the only change.

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (For items not listed on the agenda; speakers limited to two minutes.)**

Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive: I wasn't planning on coming tonight, but I had a phone call, special request that I show up, so I'm here, plus my daughter needed something at CVS, but I really wanted to come to welcome all of the new members and say a special thank you to have Commissioner Lenares come back to the table here, it's nice seeing his smiling face. I don't know if he will be smiling all of the time when I keep asking questions at the end of a meeting but we'll see how it goes. Thank you.

Chairman Pane: Anyone else? Any other public participation?  
We will go to the Zoning Enforcement Officer's Report.

*Bryan Haggerty*  
Town Clerk

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
NEWINGTON, CT  
2019 DEC 16 AM 11:29

**V. ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT**

Andrew Armstrong: Good evening everyone. Before I do the report, I have two new temporary signs to report. Verizon Wireless at 3680 Fenn Road and Lowe's at 3270 Berlin Turnpike is asking for a banner and one that was previous approved by this Commission at 3127 Berlin Turnpike for Connecticut Beverage Mart. With that, are there any questions on the report?

Chairman Pane: Let's take care of the temporary signs before we go into the zoning report. Does everybody understand the temporary permits?

Commissioner Claffey: The one for Lowe's, the banner.....

Andrew Armstrong: Until 12/24/2019.

The Commission approved the temporary signs requested by a unanimous vote.

Chairman Pane: Does anyone have any questions on the Zoning Officer's report?

Commissioner Claffey: 35 Main Street, that guy has been out there for four years.

Andrew Armstrong: I've been to the property a few times and gathered some information and now are trying to put the puzzle pieces together if you will, my next step will be to send them a letter and then speak to them about what is going on in terms of coming into compliance.

Commissioner Claffey: 584 Main Street, where is that? Past East Robbins?

Andrew Armstrong: No, it's actually on the north side, it's near D & D Automotive. Their attorney has requested to appeal that, on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and so we are in the process of scheduling that appeal. This home is located across the street from D & D. It's a residential home, but (inaudible)

Commissioner Sobieski: Andrew, real quick, I know there was information on Facebook about Lowe's, are we all straight with that?

Andrew Armstrong: Yes, they have applied for the banner. What occurred was, there were two prior complaints from a Commission member for banners on the site, earlier this year and then this time was the third time and I had already sent them the regulations prior to this, and they got a letter regarding the banner. As it turns out, the signs were something that they had been already approved for, and so the inflatables are compliant and they are as requested as the temporary sign.

Commissioner Sobieski: The reason I am asking is that I received a couple of phone calls on it, and I looked at Facebook and I saw that there was a remark by somebody on Facebook that the Town apologized. Is that true? I'm asking the question.

Chairman Pane: I'll take that question. I went out there after seeing it on Facebook and I reached out to Commissioner Woods and we thought that, I also reached out to the Zoning Enforcement Officer on that morning of the next day, and there was a little bit of a misunderstanding there. I went and talked to the manager of the store, and I told him that as long as he got the paper work to the Town he could go ahead and refocus things back out there, because we didn't want to wait, we thought it would be more business friendly to















