

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF THE RTM FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE

This was a joint meeting with the RTM Planning, Zoning, and Housing Committee (Regular Meeting), RTM Public Works Committee.

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Place: Virtual GoTo Meeting Conference Call @ 7:30 pm

1. Call to Order: @ 7:39 pm

Committee Members Attendance:

	Jack Davis	Barry Baldwin	Luisa Brakman	Werner Domittner	Bill Dunn	Millyn Gaaserud	Elizabeth Lane
Present	X	X	X	X	X		X
Absent						X	

	Iris Mix	Peter Orphanos	Jenny Schwartz	Bill Smith	Charles Teschner	Bert von Stuelpnagl
Present		X	X		X	X
Absent	X			X		

10 Present. 3 Absent. Needed for Quorum: 7. Quorum attained.

2. Other Attendees Present: RTM PZ&H Committee Members; RTM Public Works Committee Members

The meeting may be viewed here:

https://dariantv79.com/?vimeography_gallery=72&vimeography_video=830581699

3. DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE DARIEN ZONING REGULATIONS, APPENDIX B, LAND USE APPLICATION FEES

Ms. Zabatakis, Chair of PZ&H, provided an update to the proposed fee schedule for the Town Planning & Zoning Department.

Moved: Ms. Schwartz

2nd: Ms. Brakman

With no further discussion, the motion was passed. (10:0:0).

4. DISCUSS THE GREAT ISLAND LEASES

Ms. Zabatakis provided an update on the six residential leases and one commercial lease for the equestrian properties at Great Island. The mandatory referral by the Planning & Zoning Commission was approved by a vote of 4:1 at a previous meeting; however, it is expected P&Z will provide some corrections to their report at their next meeting on May 30th, prior to the RTM meeting in June where the RTM will take action on approving the leases. The summary of the lease amounts on the six residential leases begins at 6:06 minute mark on the video.

Ms. Zabatakis provided background information on the commercial operation of the equestrian property and the related lease, including the fact that on June 14, 2022, the Planning & Zoning Department issued a cease-and-desist letter to the owner and barn operator stating that the operation of a commercial show barn in a residential area is not in compliance with Town regulations. The Town has applied for a special permit, and the lease is contingent upon the special permit being approved. A public hearing will be held by Planning & Zoning on June 13th on the special permit. The purported start date of the lease is June 15th.

Discussion included, but was not limited to, unknown operating costs, the current “cease-and-desist” order, public access, safety questions, the lack of an existing lease, enforceability of the lease by the Town, and procedure. No action was taken by the F&B Committee.

5. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved: Mr. Dunn

2nd: Ms. Lane

The Motion was passed. (10:0:0).

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Schwartz
Clerk

Date: 5/30/23