

**INC. VILLAGE OF CENTRE ISLAND
CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING ON
AND
SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2020**

A continued public hearing on Proposed Local Law I-2019, amendment to Chapter 122, “Zoning,” Section 122-118, “*Keeping of Horses*,” and a special Board of Trustees meeting of the Incorporated Village of Centre Island, Nassau County, New York, was held via Zoom teleconference on Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 6:30 PM.

Present:	Lawrence Schmidlapp Victor Ort Grace Haggerty	Mayor Trustee Trustee
Not Present:	Michael Chalos	Trustee
Also present:	Alexis and William Joel Sydney & Robert Broussard Bill and Patricia Marino James and Roberta Vaughn Walter Roll Mary Jane Malko Stanley Chase Mark DeNatale Gregory Druhak Jackie Oruci Anthony Guardino, Esq. Frank Gonzales Melissa Subjeck Michael Lynch John Collins Tony Brau Eli Zimmerman Chad Nunzi	Resident Resident Residents Residents Resident Resident Resident Resident Resident Resident Resident Attorney for the Joels Attorney for the Joels Consultant for the Joels Appraiser for the Joels H2M Engineering for the Joels Engineer for the Joels Builder for the Joels Property Mgr./Joel
	Carol Schmidlapp Peter P. MacKinnon	Clerk-Treasurer Village Attorney Humes & Wagner

Mayor Schmidlapp called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM. He noted that the public hearing and Trustees meeting was being held via Zoom pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order 202.1, as extended. Notification that these hearings were to be held via Zoom teleconference and the required link and dial-in information were provided to the official Village paper and was posted on the Village’s website.

Mayor Schmidlapp called the continued hearing on Proposed Local Law I-2019, Amendment to Chapter 122, Zoning Addition of new section 122-118 *'Keeping of Horses'* to order at 6:35 PM. He noted that the continuation of the public hearing was being held via Zoom pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 202.1, as extended. Notification that this hearing was to be held via Zoom and the required link and dial-in information was posted on the Village website.

Mayor Schmidlapp then asked for comments in favor of the proposed legislation. Mr. Mr. Guardino, the Joels' attorney, asked to address the Board on behalf of his clients who own 500, 501 and 502 Centre Island Road. Mr. Guardino introduced the other members of the Joel "team" who were also on the call and available to answer any questions the Board may have.

Mr. Guardino stated that in 2018, Mr. & Mrs. Joel purchased 501 Centre Island Road with the intention of reconstituting their properties to its original state when it was owned by Georg Bullock. They also want to build a residence, horse barn and paddocks on the property located at 501 Centre Island Road. Mr. & Mrs. Joel proceeded with their building plan but put everything on hold when they were informed the Village was going to regulate the number of horses that can be kept, maintained or housed on private property in the Village. The Board worked on the proposed local law with the input of experts and held a public hearing on February 12, 2020 on the proposed legislation.

Mr. Guardino addressed the concerns that were brought up by residents at the February 12, 2020 hearing. He noted the residents's main concerns centered around what the impact would be on surface, groundwater and well-water, real estate values for adjoining property owners, nuisance factors such as smell and horseflies, the wear and tear on roads and the increase in activity on the property. Mr. Guardino stated that after the February 12, 2020 hearing, Mr. & Mrs. Joel hired water experts from H2M Engineering, real estate appraisers familiar with Centre Island properties and experts in barn and stable management to address these concerns. All of these reports have previously been provided to the Village and are available to anyone who makes a request to the Village Clerk. Mr. Guardino then turned the discussion over to Mrs. Joel.

Mrs. Joel reiterated the points made by Mr. Guardino and emphasized her desire to have horses on her property. She said she has a horse farm in Florida and the stables are kept in impeccable condition and her stables on Centre Island would be equally clean. She also pointed out the restrictions that are part of the proposed law would address and mitigate the concerns the neighbors have. She stated her horses are for her enjoyment only, they would only be in the Village for 6 months, the stable would not be visible to neighbors or from the road and that 500 Centre Island Road would serve as a buffer to residents to the north. Mrs. Joel explained that and her husband are proponents of land conservation, they too live on Centre Island and would not want to be subject to any of the alleged nuisance factors.

The Mayor then asked for comments in opposition to the proposed law. Several residents again cited the concerns that were brought up at the February 12, 2020 hearing as highlighted above. Mayor Schmidlapp then read out the names of individuals who were unable to attend the meeting but wrote letters in opposition to the law, specifically the part that allows 12 horses. The letters are attached to these minutes.

Trustee Chalos commented on the process of passing legislation and how it's incumbent upon the Board to consider both sides of the equation when making determinations on any kind of legislation.

There being no further comments, the Mayor closed the hearing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Schmidlapp requested the Board enter into Executive Session. On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously resolved to enter into Executive Session to discuss legal issues.

After the conclusion of the Executive Session, the Board re-entered the public session. There being no further business, the meeting was closed.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2020.

Carol Schmidlapp, Clerk-Treasurer