

Testimony of a Public Hearing of the Town of Union Planning Board held at the Town Office Building, 3111 East Main Street, Endwell, NY, Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 7:02 p.m.

Members present: L. Miller
L. Ciccirelli
S. McLain
S. Forster
M. Jaros
D. Kudgus
S. Yalamanchili

Others present: Marina Lane
Rick Materese
Alan Pope
Bob Kashou
Gary Bush
Ray Lohmeyer
Bob Potochniak
Abby Hanselman
Martine Barnaby
Dave Schmidt

L. MILLER: We ask that, if you have questions or comments, you address them to the Planning Board and that you stand up and give your name and address. We will open the Public Hearing for the revision of the special permit to have overnight events at 1500 County Airport Road, and I will read the public hearing notice.

The Town of Union Planning Board will conduct a public hearing relative to an application by Kashou Enterprises, Inc. of the Greater Binghamton Sports Dome for a Special Permit to have up to three overnight sporting events per month at 1500 County Airport Road (Tax Map # 110.04-1-37.2). Proposed events would be restricted to non-spectator indoor sporting events.

The public hearing will take place on Tuesday December 10, 2019, at 7:00 PM in the Town Board meeting room on the second floor of the Town of Union Office Building located at 3111 East Main Street, Endwell, New York. The application is available for review in the Planning Department.

Individuals with special needs requiring accommodations may contact the Planning Department at (706) 786-2926 at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled public hearing. Sara Zubalsky-Peer, Secretary

MS. MILLER: Okay. Would Mr. Kashou like to give a presentation?

MR. KASHOU: This is self-explanatory. Last year we did the same thing and I think it went pretty well. I can't think of any issues. I think we did about four of them last year. Each one brings in sixteen to eighteen teams, a lot of them from out of town. They stay in town and spend money, and they have a good clean time, and then they go on Sunday. So for the most part, it has been harmless to the community and beneficial to the neighborhood, and beneficial to the community as a whole. Many teams are looking for them and we would like to offer them again this year. So we hope that the Board will approve it again.

MS. LANE: You said sixteen to eighteen teams?

MR. KASHOU: Yes, sixteen to eighteen teams and they play throughout the roster. They are not there all at the same time. Some of them may have to go away for five or six hours and come back,

MS. LANE: Okay, I remember.

MR. KASHOU: You can't fit them all at the same time.

MS. MCLAIN: What sport are they going to be playing?

MR. KASHOU: Softball.

MR. CICCARELLI: That was going to be my question.

MR. KASHOU: We are probably the only facility in the northeast that can run three games, three official games, at the same time.

MS. MILLER: And it is one night of the weekend?

MR. KASHOU: We do it probably Saturday night to Sunday morning. Some come on Friday to hang around town. Some come on Saturday morning, spend time and then they play in the evening. They play throughout the night, and come and go. Some will park and camp on the site and come inside to watch others play.

MS. MILLER: Does anyone in the audience have any comments or questions for the Board? No. Are there any Board members who have questions?

MR. KASHOU: This week we had a great event. We had the two soccer stars come down and it was really successful.

MS. MILLER: I saw that on the news and it got great press. Okay, if no one has any questions...

MR. JAROS: I have a question now. Last year it was approved for twice a month, but you did four for the entire year, correct?

MR. KASHOU: Approximately four. I think it was twice a month, but I don't think we did that many. One month we might have done twice.

MR. BUSH: We did one a month. I think we skipped December, and we did November, January, February and March. So I think it was four; we only did one a month.

MR. JAROS: Okay. So why are we looking at three times a month, then?

MR. KASHOU: Oh, we are not looking for three times a month.

MS. LANE: Let me clarify this for you. Last year when Bob first approached us about it, he mentioned up to three per month. This time he didn't specify so I just advertised it that way. But last year we actually approved it for two times a month. And so that is something that we can all discuss and decide.

MR. KASHOU: It's highly unlikely that we will do three a month, but we just threw it out there.

MR. BUSH: Just like you were saying earlier, to go and play softball when there are two feet of snow, and have three games going at the same time, you are not going to find it anywhere else in the entire northeast. So we are getting more and more interest. But I don't want to run three a month; that is too much. Two, I am okay with, but three is too many.

MS. MILLER: So are we going to keep it at three a month?

MS. LANE: We don't have to. For everyone who read my report, in the back part I made a recommendation up to three events. So we will just change that to two then, okay? Now we have that on the record.

MS. MILLER: So if no one else has any questions or comments, then we will close the public hearing.

Public Hearing concluded: 7:09 p.m.

I, CAROL M. KRAWCZYK, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript of a Public Hearing of the Town of Union Planning Board is a true, accurate, and complete transcript of my stenographic notes/tape taken at the above time and place.

CAROL M. KRAWCZYK