

Testimony of a Public Hearing of the Town of Union Planning Board held relative to Special Use Permit for a tavern use and to expand outdoor seating, located at 534 Hooper Road, on June 13, 2023, at 7:21 p.m.

PRESENT: Members present: L. Miller, Chairman
M. Jaros
S. McLain
C. Bullock
T. Crowley
M. Hills
G. Ksenak

Others present: Marina Lane
Skye Hansen
Mitch Gorton
Steve Calocerinos
Rob Potochniak
Lou Fata
Travis Fata
Eric Emerick

MS. MILLER: We will open the Public Hearing, and I will read the public notice.

The Town of Union Planning Board will conduct a public hearing relative to an application submitted by Travis Fata for a special use permit for a tavern use and to expand outdoor seating at Jonathans, at 534 Hooper Road (Tax Map #142.09-6-1). The property is in a Neighborhood Commercial zoning district, and restaurants and taverns require a Special Use Permit.

The public hearing will take place on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 7:00 PM or thereafter 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 Town of Union Planning Department during normal business hours (8 AM to 4 PM).

Individuals with special needs requiring accommodations may contact the Planning Department at (607) 786-2926 at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled public hearing. Lisa B. Miller, Chairperson.

MS. MILLER: Does anyone have any questions or comments? Please state your name and address.

MR. EMERICK: Thank you, Board, for having me. My name is Eric Emerick and I reside in Endwell on Wayne Street.

MS. LANE: I'm sorry; you went so fast. We actually have to put it in the minutes. These are transcribed. So, can you say your name again?

MR. EMERICK: My name is Eric Emerick.

MS. LANE: Okay.

MR. EMERICK: I reside at Wayne Street in Endwell. I am a customer. Of all the restaurants in the Endwell area, Jonathan's is the place I choose. They did not know that I was coming here. They are a great family. I think it is the only restaurant that I know where the owner goes table to table and sits with customers. He has been doing this a long time. He comes from Brothers Two; he was the co-founder of Brothers Two and has been doing this for fifty plus years. I choose Jonathan's as my place of business in the area; two is that I am the president of the Endwell Rotary. I am in favor of Johnathan's because that is where we hold our Endwell Rotary meetings. We meet there twice a month. Sometimes I call at the last minute and he lets us use his private room if it's available; if not, he sets us up in a private place last minute.

I've been known to do some work for him in the catering. They have a catering business at another location, at Atrio. They have done very well for my family and my wife has worked for them as well.

Speaking on behalf of people in this area, when the softball team won the championship, they found their way to Jonathan's. Now I have worked there when the football team and anytime there is a parade or a championship team like the little league, they find their way to Jonathan's. And that's where these sports teams find room for 40 people or 60 people who show up and order off the menu and they have room for them. So it would be really nice to have this outdoor seating like a lot of other places in the Town of Union, so that way you can put 30 or 40 kids and sit them underneath outside to have their pizza parties. I see nothing but positives coming out of this. Like I said, Louie is there from open to close and Travis is there. This is one of the few places that you find in the Town of Union that you will find the owners are there from open to close. I find nothing negative about this, and I really hope that you push forward to pass this.

MS. MILLER: Thank-you.

MR. EMERICK: Thank you for having me.

MS. MILLER: Anyone else? Okay, we will close the public hearing.

Public Hearing concluded: 7:26 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