



# Village of Colonie

VILLAGE HALL  
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**EDWARD SIM**  
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**PATTY SCHWARZ  
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TRUSTEE  
**ART WHITE**  
TRUSTEE  
**JAMES M. RUBINO**  
TRUSTEE

**JAMIE BLOT**  
CLERK

## MINUTES TUESDAY, February 15, 2022 6:30 P.M.

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Village of Colonie Planning Commission was held at Village Hall, 2 Thunder Road Albany, NY 12205 on Tuesday, February 15, 2022.

ROLL CALL:	Chairman:	Chris Dennis
	Commissioners:	John Martin Peter Chudzinski Kenny Hart Dan Judge Jim Splonskowski Mark Keegan
	Village Attorney:	Victor Caponera (absent)
	Village Engineer:	R.J. Laberge
	Liaison:	Patty Schwarz Lockart

Chairman Dennis opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Hart led the Pledge of Allegiance and requested all electronic devices to be turned off or muted.

**1526 Central Avenue  
Change of Occupancy  
Mathura Restaurant**

Property owner Mr. Bokhari and proposed tenant Ashwin Rana presented to the Planning Commission the proposed business of a South Indian vegetarian cuisine restaurant in the space at 1526 Central Avenue. The business will be open from 11AM-10PM.

Chairman Dennis and Village Engineer Laberge stated that the ten parking spots shown on the approved site plan are sufficient for the proposed business.

Village Engineer Laberge asked Mr. Bokhari for verification that the grease traps were installed at this location. Mr. Bokhari stated that they were. There are two, 1000-gallon tanks installed.

Commissioner Martin asked about the trees shown on the site plan and if they are planted. Commissioner Hart showed a photo of a stump that had been cut back where a tree was by the applicant. The applicant claimed that the tree was trimmed and will grow back. Commissioner Martin stated that in his experience the tree has been damaged beyond repair and will not grow back. The applicant stated that if it does not grow back he will replace it. The applicant confirmed the second tree has not been planted as of yet.

Village Engineer Laberge approved escrow for two trees to be installed and be submitted to the Village of Colonie.

Commissioner Hart asked about the free-standing sign that is currently in front of building and is not shown on the site plan. Village Engineer Laberge stated that the sign placement on the site may not comply with the setback requirements and recommended the applicant check with the Village of Colonie Building Department regarding sign placement.

Commissioner Martin made a motion to approve Mathura Restaurant at 1526 Central Avenue with a condition that the applicant obtain a permit for the sign and a \$500.00 escrow to be deposited to guarantee that the trees will be planted as shown on the site plan. Tree must be planted by June 1, 2022 Escrow check will be due at time of building permit submittal. Commissioner Hart seconded motion.

VOTE

Chris Dennis      Yes

John Martin	Yes
Peter Chudzinski	No
Kenny Hart	Yes
Dan Judge	Yes
Jim Splonskowski	Yes
Mark Keegan	Yes

**1606 Central Avenue  
Site Plan Application  
Renua Energy – Charging Stations**

Chuck Hoyt, project manager of Renua Energy presented project for 1606 Central Avenue. Property owners Mr. & Mrs. Patel were not present at meeting.

Mr. Hoyt explained there will be three duplex charging stations that will serve six cars. The spots will be drive-in accessible. Power will be underground for project.

Commissioner Hart asked if there would be additional lighting other the light that comes from the unit itself. Mr. Hoyt stated that the only light from the machines would be when the credit card portion would be used.

Commissioner Hart also asked for safety purposes what would happen if the charging cord got pulled off due to a driver forgetting to unplug. Mr. Hoyt stated that if there is an emergency at the site, the dispatch is notified, and a service tech will come to the site to address the issue that has been triggered. Unit will shut off when cord is disconnected.

Planning Commission requested charging stations to be moved two spaces to accommodate handicapped parking spaces.

Commissioner Martin made a motion to approve 1606 Central Ave, Renua Energy for six charging stations with one station accessible to a handicapped parking space.

Commissioner Chudzinski seconded motion.

UNANIMOUS TO APPROVE.

The Commission reviewed the meeting minutes from February 1, 2022. Commissioner Hart made a motion to approve the minutes, as amended. Commissioner Judge seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous to approve the February 1, 2022, meeting minutes as amended.

**DISCUSSION:**

Commissioner Martin asked Chairman Dennis if we have heard anything further on the Clark Lincoln Avenue project. No plans have been submitted.

Commissioner Martin asked Village Engineer Laberge if we have heard back on the comments to the developer on the 29 Vly Road proposed project EAF form. Village Engineer Laberge confirmed that the Planning Commission has not heard anything back.

Commissioner Martin asked the status of the tree cut down at Kim's Market by Cube Smart Storage facilities. Village Engineer Laberge will be reaching out to the owners at Cube Smart for an update.

Commissioner Martin asked if Prime Storage has returned correspondences about the landscape issues. Coordinator Sim has not heard back.

Commissioner Martin also inquired if Five Guys had ever made an attempt to return to planning. Village Engineer Laberge stated that they had not.

Village Resident Judy Canniff would like to go on record stating her opinion and views that she hopes the Village Planning Commission will investigate the use of Cypress Street as an entrance option for the proposed project at 29 Vly Road. This was not mentioned in previous minutes. It was brought to the Planning Commissions attention that these specific topics need to be noted.

Commissioner Hart made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:15 PM. Commissioner Martin seconded motion.

UNANIMOUS TO ADJOURN.

Respectfully Submitted,

Courtney Sim  
Planning Coordinator