## Zoning Board of Adjustment December 5, 2022 6:30 p.m. City Hall Council Chambers 3 Washington Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

## **AGENDA**

- I. Introduction of Board Members:
- II. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: November 7, 2022
- III. Unfinished Business:
- IV. Hearings:

**<u>ZBA 22-19</u>**: Petitioner, Hans Porschitz, requests a Variance for property located at 196 South Lincoln St., Tax Map #587-001-000-000-000 that is in the Medium Density District and owned by Jennifer Whitehead. The Petitioner requests a Variance to permit a structure outside the building setbacks on the side & rear of the property, the side setback from  $20^{\circ} - 0^{\circ}$  to 14.2° and the rear setback from 15° to 12° per Chapter 100, Articles 1.3.3.A.3 and 3.5.2 the Zoning Regulations.

**ZBA 22-20:** Petitioner, Hilary Harris, requests a Variance for property located at 365 Main St., Tax Map #112-038-000-000-000 that is in the Low Density District. The Petitioner requests a Variance to permit a one additional dwelling unit in an existing barn totaling three units on the property, per Chapter 100, Article 3.3.5 of the Zoning Regulations.

**ZBA 22-21:** Petitioner, Timothy St. Pierre of B.U.R. Construction, LLC of 940 John Stark Hwy, Newport, NH, requests a Variance for property located at 363 Pearl St., Tax Map #593-004-000-000-000 and owned by Adam Wright. The Petitioner requests a Variance to permit the temporary use of a vacant lot for staging of an adjacent construction project per Chapter 100, Article 3.3 of the Zoning Regulations.

V. New Business:

Rules of Procedure updates

- VI. Communications and Miscellaneous:
- VII. Non Public Session: (if required) permeant
- VIII. Adjournment:

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1 2 3	<u>City of Keene</u> New Hampshire					
4 5 6 7 8	ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MEETING MINUTES					
	Monday, November 7, 2022 6:30 PM Council Chambers City Hall					
Ū	Members Present:Staff Present:Joshua Gorman, ChairJohn Rogers, Zoning AdministratorJoseph Hoppock, Vice ChairCorinne Marcou, Zoning ClerkRichard CloughMichael Hagan, Plans Examiner					
	Members Not Present: Jane Taylor Michael Welsh					
9 10 11 12	I) <u>Introduction to Board Members</u>					
13 14 15	Chair Gorman called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and explained the procedures of the meeting.					
16	II) <u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting: September 19 and October 3, 2022</u>					
<ul> <li>Mr. Hoppock made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of September 19 and</li> <li>2022. Mr. Clough seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.</li> </ul>						
20 21 22	III) <u>Unfinished Business</u>					
23 24 25 26 27 28 29	<ul> <li>IV) <u>Hearings</u> <ul> <li>A) <u>Continued ZBA 22-13:</u> Petitioners, Brian &amp; Amalia Harmon, requests a Variance for property located at 27-29 Center St., Tax Map #568-016-000-000 that is in the Downtown Transition District. The Petitioners requests a Variance to permit a multi-family dwelling with three units on a lot with 3,049 sq. ft. where 18,800 sq. ft. is required, per Chapter 100, Article 4.6.1 of the Zoning Regulations</li> </ul> </li> </ul>					
30 31	Chair Gorman introduced ZBA 22-13 and asked to hear from staff.					

- John Rogers, Zoning Administrator, read from the meeting minutes of the August 15, 2022 ZBA
   meeting:
- 34 "Mr. Hagan stated that 27-29 Center St. is located in the Downtown Transition District. He
- 35 continued that it is a brick building, built in 1920. It currently sits on 3,049 square feet where, if
- 36 *this Variance were granted, it would be required 18,800 square feet for a three unit building.*
- 37 This property received a Variance on September 7, 2021 to convert from an office building to a
- 38 two-unit dwelling. In addition, four parking spaces were required, and a Variance was granted
- *for three.* 39
- 40 *Mr.* Welsh stated that the application before the Board is for the addition of another unit. He
- 41 continued that they considered parking last time and asked if the Board should consider the
- 42 *addition of parking this time.*
- 43
- 44 *Mr. Rogers replied that staff spoke with the Applicant, who will be presenting the Board with a*
- 45 different alternative that is allowed under the Zoning Code. He continued that a section of the
- 46 Zoning Code speaks to the ability to provide the required off-street parking as 'remote parking,'
- 47 meeting the parking requirements by leasing off-site spaces somewhere within 1000 feet of where
- 48 *the required parking is needed. He will let the Applicant speak to that, but he believes their*
- 49 *intent is to seek the additional parking spaces that would be required if this dwelling unit were*
- 50 granted through that 'remote parking' section of the Zoning Code.
- 51
- 52 Chair Gorman asked, for clarity, if it is correct that with the Variance the Board approved, the
- 53 Applicant had two and a half spaces. Mr. Rogers replied that he believes that what they
- 54 presented at the previous Variance request was that they had three and something spaces. The
- 55 Variance that was granted, was for the one parking space that was lacking, because with that
- 56 granted Variance was for the two dwelling units, which would require four spaces. With this
- 57 new request, would require two mores spaces, and again, they are proposing to provide it
- 58 through the remote parking section of the Zoning Code. Chair Gorman replied that it would be
- 59 imperative for the Board to focus on these two, because they have already granted a Variance
- 60 for the existing fourth one. Mr. Rogers replied that that would be his recommendation.
- 61 Certainly if this Variance were to be approved, they could condition that approval on the
- 62 Applicant meeting the parking demand for that third unit.
- 63
- 64 *Chair Gorman asked if there were any more questions for staff. Hearing none, he asked to hear* 65 *from the Applicant.*
- 66
- 67 Brian Harmon and Amalia Harmon, of 184 Colby Road, Danville, introduced themselves. Mr.
- 68 Harmon stated that he and Mrs. Harmon do understand, and they have two options for parking,
- 69 but they do not have leases. He continued that they have not selected either of the two options,
- 70 because they did not know where this Variance request would take them. Not having any
- 71 previous knowledge of how best to prepare for the meeting, they did seek two particular areas
- 72 for potential parking. They do not have those leases in hand. They would like time, if that were
- 73 what the Board needs, to produce these leases or submit them somehow.

- 74 Mr. Rogers stated that just so the Board is aware, there is a whole process laid out in the Zoning 75 *Code for this parking lease agreement. He continued that there is an approval process that runs* 76 through the Community Development Department and ultimately is approved by the City 77 Manager, if the Harmons are going to go with the remote parking. 78 79 Chair Gorman stated that he would like to ask the Board if they are comfortable moving forward 80 with the application without a lease in hand, but perhaps making that a contingency, should they 81 see fit to approve the application otherwise. 82 83 Ms. Taylor stated that if this moves forward, she thinks it would be appropriate to have that as a 84 condition. Chair Gorman agreed. Mr. Hoppock agreed. 85 86 Chair Gorman asked the Harmons if they are prepared to continue. He continued that the Board 87 would be happy to continue this application to the next scheduled meeting, if they want to make further preparations. Mr. Harmon replied that he thinks they would like the opportunity to 88 89 postpone this to the next meeting if possible. Chair Gorman replied that he is comfortable with 90 that but cannot speak for the entire Board. He continued that they would have to make a motion. 91 92 Ms. Taylor made a motion to move consideration of ZBA 22-13 to be considered further at the 93 September meeting of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, at the Applicant's request. Mr. Hoppock 94 seconded the motion." 95 96 Mr. Rogers stated that at that point, a member of the public spoke, and that person is here tonight 97 to give his thoughts. He continued that moving forward in the meeting minutes, another abutter, 98 who was not able to be here tonight, spoke. He read from the minutes: 99 100 "Frank DePippo, of Blue Spruce Ocean Holdings, stated that he owns the property next door at 101 *33 Center St. and has for many years. He continued that never has anyone removed his fence.* 102 The Board was given a photograph showing the potential parking, and he is very uncomfortable 103 with it. The photo shows his fence in place. Mr. DePippo continued to share his opinions about 104 the building, the parking, and the application. Chair Gorman stated that he is not comfortable 105 allowing Mr. DePippo to continue in such depth, given that the Board has not yet heard from the 106 Applicant. He continued that if the Board were going to continue this hearing, they would love 107 to hear all of Mr. DePippo's input at the next hearing. He hears that Mr. DePippo is dissatisfied 108 with a decision the Board has already made regarding a previous Variance, but that has been 109 done, and they are moving on to this hearing. If they move this hearing to next month, he urges 110 Mr. DePippo to come to speak, or write a letter to the Board. They did not know the application 111 would be proposed for continuance, but it is an attempt to be fair to everyone, including Mr. 112 DePippo. 113 114 Mr. DePippo replied that he at least wants to submit a photograph he brought. Chair Gorman
- 115 replied that he could submit it to City staff. Mr. DePippo continued to speak about his fence,

- **ZBA** Meeting Minutes November 7, 2022 116 and Chair Gorman stated that the topic is not the Board's purview and he encourages Mr. 117 DePippo to reach out to the appropriate City staff members instead. 118 119 Chair Gorman called for a vote on the motion to continue ZBA 22-13 to the September 6, 2022 120 meeting. The motion passed unanimously." 121 122 Chair Gorman thanked Mr. Rogers and asked if the Board had any questions. 123 124 Mr. Hoppock asked if the Variance is for the square footage, not for the parking. Mr. Rogers 125 replied that is correct; his understanding is that the applicants were going to try to meet the 126 parking requirements in a different way, with remote parking. 127 128 Chair Gorman asked if there were more questions. Hearing none, he asked to hear from the 129 applicants. 130 131 Brian and Amalia Harmon, of 184 Colby Rd., Danville, NH, introduced themselves. Mr. 132 Harmon stated that they are here regarding 27-29 Center St. He continued that the last time they 133 talked to the Board; they were in transition to get remote parking spaces, to meet the 134 requirements to hopefully get the third unit approved. They did this; two parking spaces are 135 required within 1,000 feet. They are happy to have done it as well, and take the parking burden 136 away from that street. 137 138 Chair Gorman asked if it is correct that the remote parking exempts this application from having 139 the (Board) involved with parking, which would be handled by City staff. Mr. Rogers replied 140 yes, the Zoning Code has a process with additional steps for the applicants to go through 141 regarding remote parking, if this Variance were granted by the Board. Chair Gorman replied that 142 the Board would then focus on the five criteria regarding inadequate lot size. 143 144 Chair Gorman asked if the applicants wanted to go through the five criteria.
- 145
- 146 Amalia Harmon stated that they are seeking to add a unit to the 27-29 Center St. property, which
- 147 she and Mr. Harmon have owned since last March, with construction began in May. There has
- 148 been an increase in construction materials costs and a decrease in the construction workforce.
- 149 The property needed more work than she and Mr. Harmon had anticipated. The request is to
- 150 apply the new grant program that Governor Sununu just launched, Invest NH. The program is
- 151 specifically for projects with three or more units. There is plenty of room for a third unit.
- 152 Governor Sununu wants to expand and accelerate housing and construction by incentivizing it
- 153 with such grants, to alleviate the housing shortage. The program is for three units but she and
- 154 Mr. Harmon have two, which is why they are asking for the third.
- 155
- 156 Chair Gorman asked the Harmons to begin with the first criteria and give the Board some
- 157 background as to why granting the Variance would not be contrary to the public interest. He

158 continued that what Ms. Harmon just went through was the background of their request and why 159 they are applying for the Variance. 160 161 1. Granting the Variance would not be contrary to the public interest because: 162 163 Mr. Harmon stated that Keene is experiencing a housing shortage/crisis, and granting this 164 Variance would allow three dwelling units to provide much needed affordable housing. He 165 continued that the essential character of the neighborhood would not be altered. There are residential units in the area and a few multi-family units as well. 166 167 168 2. If the Variance were granted, the spirit of the Ordinance would be observed because: 169 170 Mr. Harmon stated that the proposed change, the addition of a unit, is necessary to continue the construction on the property. He continued that inflation has impacted his and Ms. Harmon's 171 172 ability to (continue). It is difficult to keep going because everything is so expensive. He cannot 173 find any qualified construction people to hire. In order to accelerate completion, the grant is 174 needed, and the grant requires three units for application submittal to the Invest NH Housing 175 Fund. This uses federal American Rescue Act dollars for one of the state's most critical needs, more workforce housing to help support businesses in need of more workers. Cheshire Hospital 176 177 is in need, which is close. The property is close to everything, which is why he and Ms. Harmon 178 love the building and location so much. It has a lot to offer, for many people. The third unit 179 would bring costs down so someone could work and have money to be saved, instead of having 180 it all go to a high mortgage. 181 182 3. Granting the Variance would do substantial justice because: 183 184 Mr. Harmon stated that it would supply Keene with three more living units to house much-185 needed workforce. He continued that Governor Sununu predicts that the money will go a long 186 way to help ease the state's housing crisis. 187 188 4. If the Variance were granted, the values of the surrounding properties would not be 189 diminished because: 190 191 Mr. Harmon stated that the building is beautiful, historic and has so much potential. He 192 continued that the offices were empty; he could not get anyone in there. This can be transformed 193 into something desirable. Cities prosper and succeed by attracting young professionals and 194 workforce. This will increase the value of the surrounding properties and improve the security 195 and longevity of Keene's economy. 196 197 5. Unnecessary Hardship 198 Α. Owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the 199 area, denial of the variance would result in unnecessary hardship because: Page 5 of 21 Page 7 of 89

i. No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the
 ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property because:

202203 Mr. Harmon stated that the building does not impact the general public.

204

205 And

- 206 *ii. The proposed use is a reasonable one because:*
- 207

Mr. Harmon stated that the proposed use is reasonable because they can do so much with it, and it will be preserved and used for something instead of staying empty [inaudible]. The NH

housing shortage will not be going away soon. He continued that in the local news on June 6,

211 2021, Casey McDermott of NH Public Radio reported, *"New Hampshire's housing landscape is* 

212 pretty brutal." A Sentinel Source article from November 7, 2020 said, "...apartment vacancy
213 rates are low and the pandemic has exacerbated many aspects of the pre-existing housing

214 *crisis.* " Time is of the essence to apply for the grant. The grant requires the property to have the

additional unit. This third unit is much needed by the community. Commissioner Taylor

216 Caswell said the percent of available two-bedroom rentals in the state is below one percent and

- 217 considered unhealthy from the business community's perspective.
- 218

B. Explain how, if the criteria in subparagraph (A) are not established, an unnecessary
hardship will be deemed to exist if, and only if, owing to special conditions of the property that
distinguish it from other properties in the area, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict
conformance with the ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable
use of it.

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225 Mr. Harmon stated that if the criteria in subparagraph A are not established, an unnecessary 226 hardship will be deemed to exist in that the intent of creating/constructing crucially needed 227 housing may not be tangible. He continued that the building will sit empty and they cannot 228 maintain the building without financial hardship as well as a negative impact on the 229 neighborhood. There is definitely room for a third unit in the square footage of the building. 230 The building is large [inaudible] a three-bedroom unit would fit. Their target (renters) are local 231 workforce, like people working at Cheshire Hospital, wait staff, employees from the new M&T 232 bank, paralegals, and so on and so forth.

233

234 Chair Gorman asked what the square footage of the building is. Mr. Harmon replied 3,049

square feet. Chair Gorman stated [inaudible] vary in size, in excess of 3,000 square feet

- 236 [inaudible]. Mr. Harmon replied yes, it is 3,362 square feet.
- 237

238 Chair Gorman stated that he understands that the crux of the Harmons' application speaks to the

- housing shortage, which arguably the whole state and country are dealing with. He continued
- that the housing shortage is indisputable, but the point of the Board, or the purpose in his mind,
- is to make sure that there is smart housing that is, not just creating more housing because it is
- 242 needed, but creating housing that is sustainable for the community and beneficial to the

- community. Otherwise, in his view, it is not worth having. Creating housing that is not healthy
  would be just as bad as having a housing shortage. His question is thus whether the Harmons
  can elaborate a little on the spirit of this particular Zoning Ordinance and why it exists relative to
  lot size. The concern would be shoehorning too much density into a certain area. He asked what
- the Harmons could say about the property that might let the Board know why that should be a
- concern on this particular parcel of land. He knows the building is already there; that is certainly
- 249 part of it, and he knows it is on a small, pre-existing lot, which is certainly part of this as well.
- 250 He asked why the Harmons think this is not going to create a situation that is contrary to the
- 251 Ordinance, where there is too little space.
- 252 Mr. Harmon stated that they have this over the restaurants, The Pour House, and the Roxbury
- apartments; the common area is a hallway. He continued that the common area here (at 27-29
- 254 Center St.) would be the porch and the side entrance. He presented drawings for a two-family.
- There is a washer/dryer area, too. He is comparing it to the larger places that have studio
- apartments with people coming and going, and he and Ms. Harmon have no intention to go to
- that scale at all.
- 258 Chair Gorman replied that [inaudible] he thinks Mr. Harmon is comparing 27-29 Center St. to
- 10-unit buildings that exist in locations where such a thing is allowed. He continued that it
  would help if Mr. Harmon kept his focus on the zone that his and Ms. Harmon's property is in,
  and why they think the area would not be adversely impacted.
- 261

Ms. Harmon stated that the upstairs was designed to have three bedrooms. She continued that the downstairs was designed to have three bedrooms, but if you break that in half and go from front to back on the right-hand side, you can have enough room for a living room, kitchen, and a bedroom and bathroom. On the other side is the same amount of space, but they will use what would have been a bedroom to be a kitchenette area, so it would not be too cramped. She showed where there would be one bedroom, and where there would be two bedrooms, and showed the unit that would be a one-bedroom.

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Chair Gorman stated that basically they are not changing the [inaudible]. He continued that they
were originally intent on [inaudible]. With this application, they would have the same six
bedrooms. Mr. Harmon replied that is correct. Chair Gorman stated that it would just have an
extra kitchen and bathroom and an extra unit. Mr. Harmon replied that is correct. Ms. Harmon
stated that [inaudible] and showed the common area, another way out. She continued that this
would not change the outline of the outside of the house at all.

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Mr. Hoppock asked how many extra people they are anticipating. He continued that he wants to hear about the parking, too, because that is relevant to the second criterion about public health, safety, and welfare. Ms. Harmon replied that on the right-hand side is a one bedroom for one or two people. Mr. Harmon stated [inaudible]. Mr. Hoppock asked if it is correct that right now they have two units. Mr. Harmon replied yes. Mr. Hoppock asked if there would be six tenants the way they are now, and Mr. Harmon replied yes.

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Mr. Hoppock asked again about parking. Mr. Harmon stated that remote parking would be at the
community lot, on the closest side of the Colonial Theater, near/behind Margarita's Restaurant.
There are two spots there. He continued that they wanted it closer but they did not allow trucks,
which he can understand. They wanted to make sure they could get a minivan or something
substantial.

290

291 Mr. Clough asked how far away that is. Mr. Rogers replied that if the Board gives him a few 292 minutes and continues on, he research. He continued that also, just so the Board is aware, the 293 requirements that still need to be followed for remote parking, per the Zoning Code, are: "Where 294 remote parking spaces are under separate ownership from the principal lot, a written and duly 295 executed parking agreement between the record owners, which guarantees the use and operation 296 of remote parking areas for the life of the principal use, shall be submitted to and approved by 297 the Zoning Administrator and recorded in the County Registry of Deeds. Change of ownership 298 or use of either parcel shall require a renewal of the agreement." He continued that staff would 299 have to be provided with something that [inaudible] would not put the Variance in jeopardy.

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Chair Gorman asked if it would negate the Variance if the agreement expired, even though this is
 not a parking Variance. Mr. Rogers replied yes, because [inaudible] the Variance would be
 conditioned upon [inaudible]. Chair Gorman replied [inaudible].

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Mr. Clough stated that to him, a lot of the impetus to add the extra unit, at least in the narrative, is from Invest NH. He asked if the Harmons are aware of its status, and if they applied for it. Ms. Harmon replied that even though she and Mr. Harmon told them there was a Variance in the works, they said, "Just apply; we'll deal with that later." She continued that Invest NH also let her and Mr. Harmon know that that is a benefit to the City of Keene as well. For every unit they get \$10,000 that goes to the City to put to whatever they need. It does not need to be earmarked

- 311 for one particular thing. Parking might be good.
- 312

313 Chair Gorman stated that he is assuming the Harmons are aware of the elevated fire and life

- 314 safety codes that come into play as a result of adding a third unit. Mr. Harmon replied yes, that
- is another reason for the hardship potential. That has quadrupled, especially after [the fire at]
- 316 Cobblestone. His sprinkler contractors here in Keene [inaudible].
- Chair Gorman asked if there were more questions from the Board. Hearing none, he stated that
  he will open it up now to public input, and the Harmons will have the opportunity for rebuttal
  afterwards.
- 320

322 Chair Gorman read into the record:

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324	<i>"ABUTTER'S PETITION</i>
325	TO CITY OF KEENE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
326	
327	RE: the Harmon request for Second Variance on property at 27-29 Center Street

328 329	1. The premises is located in the Historic District at 27-29 Center St. and is two stories in height. It has two entry doors in front, and abuts the public sidewalk, completely.
<ul><li>330</li><li>331</li><li>332</li><li>333</li></ul>	2. It was purchased by the Harmons from Leonide Realty, LLC, March 20, 2021 for \$187,000, and deed is recorded at Vol. 1174 page 943 of the Cheshire Registry. There is no mortgage of record, to petitioner's knowledge.
334 335 336 337	3. The Harmons' application for a variance to convert from an office building to a two-family residence was granted and a building permit was issued September 23, 2021, by the City of Keene.
338 339 340 341	The lot is 3048 square feet whereas 13,400 square feet is required by City Ordinance. The building does not meet maximum building coverage requirement of 50% or the minimum green/open space requirement of 30%.
342 343 344 345	The front setback is 0, and the minimum rear setback is approximately two feet where 15 feet is required.
346 347 348	There is a two-story green wooden porch across the entire rear portion of the building that closely abuts the Espiefs property, and appears to have been unused or maintained for many years. Whether it has historic importance is unclear.
349 350 351 352	4. Building renovations by Harmon ceased in May of 2022 because of claims that materials were more expensive, and of workforce problems.
353 354 355	5. Coincidentally, however, the State of New Hampshire's "Invest" program, enacted by the legislature in April 2022 to help fund housing, and funding commenced July 11, 2022 for projects with a minimum of three family units.
356 357 358 359	6. The present (second) petition for variance was filed by the Harmons on July 21, 2022 and was promptly noticed for hearing. However, due to an error, the hearing was rescheduled for August 15, 2022.
360 361 362 363	7. At the August 15 hearing, the Harmons were given a continuance to September 6, in order to provide alternative parking information.
364 365 366	However, no notice of this continuance was issued/mailed to abutters or others entitled to notice. Again, a Continuance was granted to the Harmons to September 26 [sic], without notice to abutters.
367 368 369 370	8. On the facts and evidence available, this second variance request should be denied. It asks for a third family to be permitted in the same living area already set aside for a second family unit. It is 'the straw that broke the camel's back.' This entire building is literally 'on the street.'

<ul> <li>371</li> <li>372</li> <li>373</li> <li>374</li> <li>375</li> <li>376</li> <li>377</li> <li>378</li> </ul>	There is no setback for the intense traffic on Center St. (which comprises its 'front yard'). There is no place for children or adults to be safe from the ongoing traffic from the downtown and adjacent Court House area during all the seasons and weather conditions. It is a 'living trap' for youngsters coming and going. In short, it is a likely 'center' for emergency and police responses because of its density, configuration, lack of setback, and very dangerous location. Granting the variance would not be in the interest of justice, and would be contrary to the spirit of the ordinance.
<ul> <li>379</li> <li>380</li> <li>381</li> <li>382</li> <li>383</li> </ul>	9. Finally, and most critically, the Board must deny the variance, and take other action in light of the bad faith and illegal demands of the Harmons, all set forth in Section 2: Property Information; Section 5.B filed with their petition, and in their handwriting – a copy of which is attached hereto for reference, and reads as follows:
384 385 386 387	'If the criteria in sub par A are not established an unnecessary hardship will be deemed to exist in that the interest of creating, constructing crucially needed housing may not be tangible. The building will sit empty, and we cannot maintain an empty building, without financial hardship as well as a negative impact on the neighborhood.'
<ul> <li>388</li> <li>389</li> <li>390</li> <li>391</li> <li>392</li> <li>393</li> <li>394</li> </ul>	The Harmons' threat is clear – give us the second variance or you get nothing but an empty building. They need the third unit to get State funding (which requires three units). They are retroactively willing to throw away their first granted variance from this Board. Their only interest is getting the State funds. This amounts to pure DURESS on this Board. The hearing is simply a formality, and the Board are nothing but Harmon actors, to see that the third unit variance is approved, and Harmon gets qualified for State funding.
395 396 397	This Board's integrity is at stake. Even if you could find for the Harmons, your finding would be clouded by their Duress.
<ul><li>398</li><li>399</li><li>400</li><li>401</li></ul>	This Board's official standing as a reliable and lawful body is at stake, and it must take action to protect its integrity and lawful responsibility.
402 403 404 405	It should deny the pending petition for variance, and revoke the initial grant of variance, leaving the Harmons with an office building on Center St. The Board is free to take any other action it deems proper.
405 406 407	Clearly, this matter should be referred to the City Attorney.
408 409	I reserve my rights.
410 411 412	Respectfully submitted, Peter S. Espiefs, November 7, 2022"

- 413 Mr. Rogers stated that it appears that this parking lot, depending one where in the lot they've
- 414 rented, might not be within a thousand feet section. He recommended that if this application is to
- 415 be approved, that there is a condition that the Applicant obtain the recommended parking
- 416 necessary as outlined in the Land Development Code. He continued that also, just as a note for
- 417 the Board, the living space of the building is 2,736 square feet. The total building, because of the
- 418 unfinished basement and the porches, is a total of 4,676 square feet.
- 419

420 Chair Gorman stated that if this off-site parking does not meet the criteria, his understanding is 421 that any action the Board takes tonight is relative solely to the lot size and if they cannot satisfy 422 off-site parking requirements they would be going back for a parking Variance. He asked if that 423 is correct. Mr. Rogers replied that would be his opinion, certainly if the Board got to the point of 424 making a motion, he would recommend the motion have a condition placed on it to ensure that 425 the parking would be satisfied in some manner, whether through an act of this Board or remote 426 parking.

- 427
- 428 Chair Gorman asked for public input.
- 429

Peter Espiefs stated that he is the one who filed the petition in opposition. He continued that he thinks he has stated everything he can about this case. You cannot ask for a Variance based on finances. That is not one of the criteria for a Variance, but that is what the Harmons are saying. They need this Variance so they can get a third unit and get qualified for the NH state funding. They bought this property for \$187,000 and there is no mortgage. They want to see if they can get some money from the State and get the building to have three apartments. They already have

- 436 approval for two, and could have done the two, but they are not going to do any now unless they437 get this Variance, and there is no legal basis for the Variance for the third unit. He thinks the
- 438 Board can read and understand what the situation is. He does not have anything personal against
- 439 the Harmons. He tried as best he could to get along with them when they first started, and went
- 440 along with their two-apartment project. He did not oppose that. However, they are dealing with
- something else now. The Harmons have changed; they are not who they purport to be. They
- 442 have been in business for a long time and know "all the tricks and the games." He will not

tolerate this, and will appeal if the Board does not deny the Variance.

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Chair Gorman asked if there was any more public comment. Hearing none, he invited theHarmons to give rebuttal.

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448 Mr. Harmon stated that if this was a courtroom, he would ask that (Mr. Espief's words) to be

- stricken from the record. He continued that he is appalled at the words of this respected elder,
- 450 and would argue that Mr. Espiefs does not know him and Ms. Harmon very well and does not
- 451 know their intentions. His and Ms. Harmon's intentions are only for the people of this
- 452 community, and they themselves are a part of the community. They want to help the
- 453 community. Their son went to Keene State College, and they fell in love with it here (in Keene).
- 454 He asks that not be taken away from them. They have only good intentions in their hearts.
- 455 Mr. Harmon questioned if this Variance would benefit him and Ms. Harmon then replied that of

- 456 course as they are here to invest in the community and this neighborhood. He likes this
- 457 neighborhood and he does not understand why Mr. Espiefs is trying to shut them out. There is a
- 458 place for everyone. He and Ms. Harmon have every good intention.
- 459

460 Chair Gorman closed the public hearing and asked the Board to deliberate.

- 461
- 462

1.

Granting the Variance would not be contrary to the public interest.

463

Mr. Hoppock stated that the public interest is to regulate the density of land in terms of traffic,
population, and overall use at one particular time by people or anything else. He continued that
he finds the spirit of the Ordinance is jeopardized by this application. The lot is too small, and as
Mr. Espiefs points out, and from what he can tell in the picture, there is really no frontage. He
stated that he has been to the property and has seen it; it is a tight fit. He does not think that the
2,736 square feet of living space can comfortably fit three units. He is not comfortable either
with [inaudible] in a packed neighborhood. He thinks that does not satisfy the criterion.

471

Mr. Clough stated that he tends to agree. He continued that it is something he always sees the Board butting up against – many of these densities are based on lot size and building size is quite often skewed when they are closer to downtown. This is a situation where if this was centered on the lot it would not pass any sort of frontages or side setbacks; it is still tight. Then whatever use it has, it is cramped. Thinking of it as a residential unit where people would be there for multiple hours a day and especially overnight, it looks very cramped. He thinks that regarding the first criterion, the public interest, it is so tight to the sidewalk and is definitely questionable.

480 Mr. Hoppock asked Mr. Rogers for clarification, stating that it just dawned on him that this is a
481 non-conforming building on a non-conforming lot already. Mr. Rogers replied that that is
482 correct, that as it is mentioned this building would not meet the necessary setbacks and many of
483 the Zoning dimensional requirements. Mr. Hoppock replied that those all are requirements that
484 bar against density and overcrowding. Mr. Rogers replied that that is correct.

485 486

2. If the Variance were granted, the spirit of the Ordinance would be observed.

487 488 Chair Gorman stated that he thinks this dovetails with the Board's discussion on the first 489 criterion. He continued that the spirit of the Ordinance is exactly as Mr. Hoppock and Mr. 490 Clough discussed, to prevent overcrowding situations that can lead to uncomfortable living 491 situations for not only the tenants at this building but also tenants or residents of surrounding 492 properties. He is not sure that the housing shortage or the availability of government funds 493 would trump the situation. He does not think a third unit would be in the spirit of the Ordinance. 494 The Board has already given a Variance to this building and now they are being asked to make it 495 even more non-conforming. He does not think that is within the spirit or intent of Zoning in 496 general. In summary, in looking at the square footage of this lot, you can see the Harmons are 497 not asking the Board to overlook a couple thousand square feet. It is a considerable amount 498 more -18,800 square feet is required. They are asking to allow a use that would require, per the

- 499 Zoning Code, approximately six times more square footage than it has. He has a hard time 500 finding cause to think that this would be in the spirit of the Ordinance. 501 502 Mr. Hoppock stated that he thinks granting the Variance would alter the essential character of the 503 neighborhood. He continued that it would decrease public health, safety, or welfare with 504 overcrowding. 505 506 Granting the Variance would do substantial justice. 3. 507 508 Mr. Hoppock stated that he thinks the gain to the public in denying this application outweighs 509 any loss to the individual. The gain to the public is the reduction of the likelihood of 510 overcrowding in this already crowded area. It is supposed to be an area that transitions from 511 downtown to residential or [inaudible]. 512 513 Mr. Clough stated that he agrees. 514 515 4. If the Variance were granted, the values of the surrounding properties would not be 516 diminished. 517 Chair Gorman stated that he does not think the exterior appearance of the building [inaudible]. 518
- He continued that he does not think that element of it could detract from value, but he does think the situation of overcrowding can detract from value. This is a tough one and he could go either way on it, but he thinks at the end of the day, two units are healthy for the values and three are not.
- 523

526

524 Mr. Hoppock stated that he does not disagree and can attest that the overcrowding situation did 525 develop there [inaudible]. He does not think this criterion is satisfied.

Mr. Clough stated that he agrees that having done work on the outside would be great for the
neighborhood. He continued that he can imagine it done up and looking beautiful, but again,
changing the inside means it becomes a wash.

531 5. Unnecessary Hardship

532A.Owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties533in the area, denial of the variance would result in unnecessary hardship because

534 *i.* No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the

ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property because:
The proposed use is a reasonable one because:

537

538 Chair Gorman stated that the applicant did not give input on 5.A(i), but he addressed 5.A(ii).539

540 Mr. Hoppock stated that the applicant did not identify a special condition of the property that 541 distinguishes it from other properties in the area. He continued that the other properties in the

542 area are all large and most are non-conforming. He does not think there is anything special about 543 the Harmons' property. He knows that in other cases the Board has worked hard to help applicants determine what special conditions their properties might have, and in this case he has 544 545 tried that and has been thinking about it, but just cannot identify a special condition of the 546 property that distinguishes it from other properties in the area. Secondly, he thinks there is a fair 547 and substantial relationship between the general public purpose of the Ordinance, protecting 548 against density and overcrowding, and the application of that provision to this property. The 549 square footage of a lot is designed to prevent the lot from being overcrowded. He does not think 550 this criterion is met at all. 551

552 Mr. Hoppock continued that regarding ii., the proposed use of a three-unit building is [inaudible], 553 and is a reasonable use but not here in this particular location, in his view.

554

555 Chair Gorman replied that he is inclined to agree. He continued that it becomes [inaudible] with

556 the third unit. He was comfortable with the second unit when the applicants came in front of the

557 Board because the property already exists and is on a small lot and needs some use, and he thinks 558 it was challenging to find a use for it. He thinks the Harmons have done that and the Board has

559 obliged in granting the first Variance for two units. It is unfortunate that the Harmons find

560 themselves in a financial position where they are not able to continue with the process of

561 building out the two units. However, while financial hardship can be a part of the Board's

562 decision, he is not comfortable making it the whole basis of the decision. He also believes that 563 inflationary pressures exist for everyone. As economics work, with inflation comes much higher

564 rent prices, so he does not see any hardship there. If you put the money into an investment

property, you will get the money out. That is just the way it goes – prices go up to build it, 565 566 prices go up to rent it. In his mind, that is offsetting. That said he does not see that there is a

567 specific hardship to this property, and if in fact there was, the first Variance satisfied that.

568

569 Mr. Clough stated that he was not on the Board for the first Variance, but yes, when he looks at 570 the total amount of living space, he sees that those two units are fairly large. He continued that 571 he does not deny that it would be a fairly expensive space for someone to rent, but when you start to split that off and create a third unit (it changes). If they were all equal, then possibly you 572 573 would have equity, but it will not be able to be split equally. Thus, you would still have an odd 574 scenario, in terms of how many people are actually there. He has lived in rental units in Keene 575 and had plenty of times when he had to hit the wall next to him because the people next door 576 were making too much noise. Then you realize, oh, there are six people in this place and should 577 have only had four. Thus, adding another unit, with the number of bedrooms that were already there, is a hard thing to be able to justify.

578 579

580 Mr. Hoppock stated that he is still stuck on the fact that they have an Ordinance governing lot size, and the purpose is to regulate/bar against overcrowding. Applying the Ordinance to this

581

582 property, there is a direct relationship between the Ordinance and what it is trying to avoid. He

583 does not see anything about the property itself that is a special condition that would make the 584 application of the Ordinance unfair or inappropriate.

585 586	Chair G	forman asked if anyone had anything else to say. Hearing none, he asked for a motion.				
587 588 589	Mr. Hoppock made a motion for the Zoning Board of Adjustment to approve ZBA 22-13 on the condition of approved appropriate parking. Mr. Clough seconded the motion.					
590 591	<i>1. Granting the Variance would not be contrary to the public interest.</i>					
592 593	Denied with a vote of 0-3.					
594 595	2. If the Variance were granted, the spirit of the Ordinance would be observed.					
596 597	Denied with a vote of 0-3.					
598 599	3. (	Granting the Variance would do substantial justice.				
600 601	Denied with a vote of 0-3.					
602	4.	If the Variance were granted, the values of the surrounding properties would not be				
603 604	diminished.					
605 606	Denied	with a vote of 0-3.				
607	5.	Unnecessary Hardship				
608	<i>A</i> .	Owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the				
609	area, denial of the variance would result in unnecessary hardship because					
610	<i>i.</i> No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the					
611 612	ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property because: and					
613	ii. T	The proposed use is a reasonable one.				
614	<i>B</i> .	Explain how, if the criteria in subparagraph (A) are not established, an unnecessary				
615	hardshi	p will be deemed to exist if, and only if, owing to special conditions of the property that				
616	distinguish it from other properties in the area, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict					
617	conformance with the ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable					
618	use of it.					
619						
620 621	Denied	with a vote of 0-3.				
622 623	The mot	tion to approve ZBA 22-13 with the condition failed with a vote of 0-3.				
624	Chair G	forman made a motion to deny ZBA 22-13. Mr. Clough seconded the motion, which				
625	passed by unanimous vote.					
626						

627 ZBA 22-18: Petitioner, Keene Mini Storage, of 690 Marlboro Rd., requests a B) 628 Variance for property located at 678 Marlboro Rd., Tax Map #214-107-000-000-629 000 that is in the Industrial District. The Petitioner requests a Variance to permit an 630 electronically activated changeable copy sign per Chapter 100, Article 10.3 **Prohibited Signs of the Zoning Regulations.** 631 632 633 Chair Gorman introduced ZBA 22-18 and asked to hear from Mr. Rogers. 634 635 Mr. Rogers stated that he and his wife are abutters, so he will let Michael Hagan, Plans Examiner 636 speak to this. 637 638 Mr. Hagan stated that 678 Marlboro Rd. is located on a 9.5 acre lot and is zoned Industrial. He 639 continued that construction was done in 2019 to permit or convert office space to self-storage, 640 with 11 buildings on site. Currently there are three freestanding signs; one for the Keene Mini 641 Storage located to the east, and a sign to the west that used to be the Cheshire Oil sign, is now a 642 sign for the gas prices. The other is a marquis sign for the Citco signs. Under the current 643 Ordinance those signs would all be non-conforming. 644 645 Chair Gorman asked if anyone had questions for Mr. Hagan. Hearing none, he asked to hear 646 from the applicant. 647 648 Jay Frazier of 290 Cheshum Rd., Harrisville, introduced Jim Robinson, owner of Keene Mini 649 Storage. Mr. Frazier continued that they are looking to receive Variance to allow them to change 650 their flip signs to digital activated signs. He asked Chair Gorman what the Board wants to know. 651 652 Chair Gorman replied that Mr. Frazier is welcome to proceed however he wishes, such as going 653 through the five criteria or giving a brief background as to why Mr. Frazier thinks this should be 654 an acceptable request. 655 656 Mr. Frazier stated that the flip signs have to be done by hand, which means going outside in the 657 snow, standing on a milk crate, and flipping the signs down. He continued that with the 658 volatility of fuel prices these days, it could happen two or three times a week. Keene Mini 659 Storage has one fulltime employee, an office manager; that is basically it on the property. 660 Occasionally he himself does maintenance for them or might go out and flip the signs and get 661 them unfrozen from the ice and snow. The LED (signs) are what most other fueling stations have. It would have 10-inch digits and the LED signs are 27"x24", or about 4.5 square feet each. 662 The current metal signs are 36"x32", or 8 square feet, so the LED signs would have a smaller 663 664 footprint. The sign itself is 40 square feet. He is looking to have signs that can be changed 665 remotely from the office, which is what nearly everyone else in this business does. He went 666 through this process when Cheshire Oil owned all the T-Birds; there was a process for all the 667 different stations in all the different towns, to get permits to change those signs. 668

- 669 Chair Gorman replied yes, the Board has heard a few of these (types of Variance requests) in the 670 past few years, from some of the local gas stations.
- 671
- Mr. Frazier stated that a lot of it is a safety issue, such as having to put signs up on a pole on awindy day with things flying off.
- 674
- Mr. Hoppock asked how bright the lights are. He continued that regarding the picture the Board
  [inaudible]. He asked if there are any neighboring houses that would see this and be impacted by
  the light. Mr. Frazier replied that the apartment building on the corner of Factory Rd. is the
  closest residential building.
- 679
- Mr. Hoppock asked [inaudible]. He asked for Mr. Frazier's best guess. Mr. Frazier replied
  across the street, on the corner.
- 682
- Chair Gorman stated that the primary visual for the lighting, if you are an abutter, would be the
  coffee roaster. He asked if that were correct, that the coffee roaster is the most visible the light
  would be. The apartment buildings are either across the street or up the street. Mr. Frazier
  agreed.
- 687
- 688 Mr. Clough asked if the lights are dimmable, and if Mr. Frazier would be able to program them 689 so that when it is really dark they do not need to be as bright. Mr. Frazier replied no, they have 690 just one setting. He continued that they would fit right into the footprint on that existing sign. It 691 is a good-looking, two-post sign that has been there for years and has good landscaping around 692 it. The whole property is landscaped well.
- 692

695

697

- 694 Chair Gorman asked if Mr. Frazier could read through the five criteria.
- 696 1. Granting the Variance would not be contrary to the public interest because:
- Mr. Frazier stated that the LED sign is more attractive and easier to read on a busy highway. He continued that he wants to emphasize that it is a busy highway, and people are looking at the price per gallon. Drivers coming from Factory Rd. and from the other direction will take a glance.
- 702

704

- 703 2. If the Variance were granted, the spirit of the Ordinance would be observed because:
- 705 Mr. Frazier stated that similar signs have been approved at most fueling locations in Keene.
- 706
- 707 *3. Granting the Variance would do substantial justice because:*
- 708
- Mr. Frazier stated that LED price signs are easier to read after dark than the flip signs, which arenot backlit and difficult to see at night.
- 711

- 712 4. If the Variance were granted, the values of the surrounding properties would not be 713 diminished because: 714 715 Mr. Frazier stated that the LED signs, like the existing flip signs, would be attached to the main, 716 existing wooden sign with two posts. The sign has been on the property for years and is well-717 maintained and landscaped around. 718 719 5. Unnecessary Hardship 720 *Owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the* Α. 721 area, denial of the variance would result in unnecessary hardship because: 722 No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the i. 723 ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property because: 724 725 Mr. Frazier stated that the metal flip signs are difficult to change in the winter and accumulate 726 ice and snow between their panels. 727 728 and 729 ii. The proposed use is a reasonable one because: 730 Mr. Frazier stated that (it gives) the ability to change prices from the office, without personnel 731 732 having to sometimes go through snow banks, brush off the snow, and chip ice to flip the metal 733 numerals. 734 735 В. Explain how, if the criteria in subparagraph (A) are not established, an unnecessary 736 hardship will be deemed to exist if, and only if, owing to special conditions of the property that 737 distinguish it from other properties in the area, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict 738 conformance with the ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable 739 use of it. 740 741 Mr. Frazier stated that fueling locations need to have the ability to change prices frequently and 742 safely, due to the volatility of the fuel prices. 743 744 Chair Gorman asked if anyone had questions for the applicant. 745 746 Mr. Hoppock asked if it is correct that the lot is relatively flat. He continued that in the picture, 747 the topography looks flat, without hills. Mr. Frazier agreed. He continued that there is a hill 748 coming in from Marlborough; when you pass the main brick building, you are going downhill. 749 Mr. Hoppock replied that the land that makes up the lot is flat, though. Mr. Frazier replied that it 750 is two different heights – half of the storage units are on a higher elevation. Mr. Hoppock asked 751 if that affects the ability to see the sign. Mr. Frazier replied no, there is no crest of a hill; there is 752 a good view all the way down through. 753
- 754 Chair Gorman asked if there were more questions. Hearing none, he asked for public comment.

755	John Rogers of 660 Marlboro Rd. stated that he wanted to point out that regarding Mr.
756	Hoppock's question. In regards to the sign, there is no residential use at 660 Marlboro so the
757	sign would not be a deterrent to him. In addition, where the sign is located, directly across the
758	street is a convenience store and a larger storage building. The residential properties in this area
759	are non-conforming and cross the street in the Commerce District is a single family, a multi-
760	family, but further west along Marlboro Road and not directly across from the sign. There are
761	storage units between the sign and the Prime Roast building.
762	
763	Mr. Hoppock asked if it is correct that there is nothing beyond that. Mr. Rogers replied that
764	further up, quite a ways up, is a plaza with commercial uses.
765	
766	Chair Gorman asked if there was any more public comment. Hearing none, he closed the public
767	hearing and asked the Board to deliberate.
768	
769	Mr. Hoppock stated [inaudible], but on the other hand, he can see where [inaudible], so they can
770	try it. He continued that the public interest is safety [inaudible].
771	
772	Mr. Hoppock made a motion to approve ZBA 22-18. Mr. Clough seconded the motion.
773	
774	<i>I. Granting the Variance would not be contrary to the public interest.</i>
775	
776	Mr. Hoppock stated that it is probably not contrary to the public interest because the public
777	interest [inaudible]. A sign that would not distract a driver [inaudible] a sign that says "\$3.55 per
778	gallon" or "\$5.60 for diesel." If you were looking for gas that is what you would want to see.
779	What might distract the public is something that said, "Regular gas \$7.00 per gallon" or "\$1.50
780	per gallon," but they are not worried about that. He thinks this meets the first criterion.
781	
782	Mr. Clough stated that if it were a blinking or flashing sign, that would be a distraction, but a
783	stationary sign with just the numbers is not something he would see as a distraction.
784	
785	Chair Gorman stated [inaudible].
786	
787	2. If the Variance were granted, the spirit of the Ordinance would be observed.
788	
789 700	Mr. Hoppock stated that he does not see that the essential character of the neighborhood would
790	be altered, given what is there already. He continued that [inaudible].
791 702	
792	Chair Gorman stated that the numbers would be smaller, so that probably helps comply with the
793 704	Zoning Ordinance.
794 705	Mr. Honnoak stated that he does not think the public health sofety or walfers is at all
795 706	Mr. Hoppock stated that he does not think the public health, safety, or welfare is at all threatened. Chair Corman and Mr. Clough agreed
796 797	threatened. Chair Gorman and Mr. Clough agreed.
171	

798 *3. Granting the Variance would do substantial justice.* 

Mr. Hoppock stated that the gain to the public, if the Board denied this, would be nominal. He continued that the loss to the public would be having easily readable signage. It would enhance the public safety; the gain to approving this would be that motorists could read the signs clearly and safely. The loss to the individual, if this were denied, would be the horrible inconvenience of having to go out in a snowstorm to flip the signs. He does not find this criterion to be a problem.

805

Chair Gorman stated that he agrees that there is no gain to the public in denying this, and
potentially a loss to the public in denying it. The gain to the applicant is obvious and reasonable,
the same thing that has been afforded to most every other gas station that has come before the
Board and asked for this.

810

811 4. If the Variance were granted, the values of the surrounding properties would not be812 diminished.

813

Chair Gorman stated [inaudible] the Board heard from an abutter that he did not see any problem
with this [inaudible]. The criteria does not say it has to increase the values; it just cannot
diminish them, and he does not think it will. Mr. Hoppock agreed.

817

818 5. Unnecessary Hardship

A. Owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the
area, denial of the variance would result in unnecessary hardship because

821 *i.* No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the

822 ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property because:823 and

824 *ii. The proposed use is a reasonable one because:* 

825

826 Mr. Hoppock stated that he thinks the special condition of the property is the nature of the use on 827 the property presently, [inaudible]. He continued that as the Chair mentioned, they have had 828 many of these cases where this is the standard of the industry, to have changeable signs. He 829 thinks the special condition of the property is the nature of the business operating on it, and the 830 application of the Ordinance to that particularly property, precluding that type of sign, does result 831 in a hardship to the owner and on the property because a reasonable sign cannot be used. A 832 Variance can be approved without jeopardizing health and safety. He finds this criterion to be 833 met.

834

835 Chair Gorman stated that he agreed. He continued that [inaudible].

836

837 Chair Gorman asked the Board to vote on the criteria.838

- 839 1. Granting the Variance would not be contrary to the public interest.
- 840

841 Granted 3-0. 842 843 2. If the Variance were granted, the spirit of the Ordinance would be observed. 844 845 Granted 3-0. 846 847 3. Granting the Variance would do substantial justice. 848 849 Granted 3-0. 850 851 If the Variance were granted, the values of the surrounding properties would not be 4. 852 diminished. 853 854 Granted 3-0. 855 856 Unnecessary Hardship 5. 857 Owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the Α. 858 area, denial of the variance would result in unnecessary hardship because 859 No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the i. 860 ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property because: 861 and 862 The proposed use is a reasonable one because: ii. 863 864 Granted 3-0. 865 866 The motion to approve ZBA 22-18 passed 3-0. 867 868 V) Adjournment 869 870 There being no further business, Chair Gorman adjourned the meeting at 8:04 PM. 871 872 Respectfully submitted by, 873 Britta Reida, Minute Taker 874 875 Reviewed and edited by, 876 Corinne Marcou, Zoning Clerk 877 John Rogers, Zoning Administrator 878 Michael Hagan, Staff Liaison

DRAFT

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# **196 S. LINCOLN ST.** ZBA 22-19



Petitioner requests to permit a structure outside the building side & rear setbacks, side setback from 20 ft to 14.2 ft & the rear seatback from 15 ft to 12 ft.



# **NOTICE OF HEARING**

# ZBA 22-19

A meeting of the Zoning Board of Adjustment will be held on **Monday, December 5, 2022, at** 6:30 PM in City Hall Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 3 Washington St, Keene, New Hampshire to consider the following petition.

**<u>ZBA 22-19</u>**: Petitioner, Hans Porschitz, requests a Variance for property located at 196 South Lincoln St., Tax Map #587-001-000-000-000 that is in the Medium Density District and owned by Jennifer Whitehead. The Petitioner requests a Variance to permit a structure outside the building setbacks on the side & rear of the property, the side setback from 20 feet to 14.2 feet and the rear setback from 15 feet to 12 feet per Chapter 100, Articles 1.3.3.A.3 and 3.5.2 the Zoning Regulations.

You are receiving notice of this hearing as an abutter to or owner of property within 200-ft of the subject parcel.

This meeting is open to the public, and anyone wishing to speak on the proposal will be given an opportunity to be heard during the public hearing for this application. The application for this proposal is available for public review in the Community Development Department on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of City Hall between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm or online at https://keenenh.gov/zoning-board-adjustment

Corinne Marcov, Zoning Clerk Notice issuance date November 23, 2022

City of Keene • 3 Washington Street • Keene, NH • 03431-3191 • www.keenenh.gov

# City of Keene, NH

# Zoning Board of Adjustment Variance Application



For Office Use Only:					
Case No. 2BA 22-19					
Date Fill	Date Filled 11/18/2022				
Rec'd By CIM					
Page	of				
Rev'd by					

If you have questions on how to complete this form, please call: (603) 352-5440 or email: communitydevelopment@keenenh.gov

SECTION 1: CONTACT INFORMATION
I hereby certify that I am the owner, applicant, or the authorized agent of the owner of the property upon which this appeal is sought and that all information provided by me is true under penalty of law. If applicant or authorized agent, a signed notification from the property
owner is required.
OWNER / APPLICANT
NAME/COMPANY: Jennifer Whitehead
MAILING ADDRESS: 196 South Lincoln Street
PHONE: (603) 620-3662
EMAIL: jenjwhitehead@gmail.com
SIGNATURE:
PRINTED NAME: Jennifer Whitehead
APPLICANT (if different than Owner/Applicant)
NAME/COMPANY: Hans Porschitz
MAILING ADDRESS: 196 South Lincoln Street
PHONE: (603) 892-1543
EMAIL: hansporschitz@gmail.com
SIGNATURE:
PRINTED NAME: Hans Porschitz
AUTHORIZED AGENT (if different than Owner/Applicant)
NAME/COMPANY:
MAILING ADDRESS:
PHONE:
EMAIL:
SIGNATURE:
PRINTED NAME:

SECTION 2: PROPERTY INFORMATION				
Property Address: 196 South Lincoln Street, Keene, NH 03431				
Tax Map Parcel Number: 587/ / 001/000 000/000				
Zoning District: Medium Density				
Lot Dimensions: Front: 58.70'	Rear: 65.00'	<sup>Side:</sup> 80.30' L	Side: 65.00'	
Lot Area: Acres: 0.1088	Square Feet: 4739			
% of Lot Covered by Structures (buildings, garages, pools, decks, etc): Existing: 27.5% Proposed: 30.3%				
% of Impervious Coverage (structures plus driveways and/or parking areas, etc): Existing: 42.4% Proposed: 43.2%				

# Present Use: single family residence

Proposed Use: single family residence

## SECTION 3: WRITTEN NARRATIVE

Article 25.5.4.A.: Describe the property location, owner of the subject property, and explain the purpose and effect of, and justification for, the proposed variance.

The property is 196 South Lincoln street and is located at the corner of South Lincoln street and Water street; Jen Whitehead is the owner of the property and lives in the 1920 Bungalow style home with her family (4 residents total); To accommodate a teenage boy who intends to finish his Highschool degree at the local Highschool she and her partner finished the attic to include an additional bedroom and bathroom; in the remodel process the heating systems was changed from an oil fired steam boiler to an electrical AirSource Heatpump system. To offset the increased energy load for the heating system and the electric car charging station, a solar PV system is planned; Panels on the south facing side (Water street) will cause snow and ice to slide onto the path leading from driveway to the side door as well as the foot path from sidewalk to door which could cause a hazard to residence and visitors; To prevent such hazard, a lower shed awning is being proposed along building to cover the area for dry and safe access from driveway to door; The other footpath from the sidewalk to the door is proposed to be removed. To cover a 6 ft path the width of the propose roof is large enough to add further solar panels for additional production and to allow snow to slide all the way off the roof and not accumulate from sliding off the main roof;

The proposed roof cannot be structurally designed to be only supported by the existing wall and will require 3 posts and a beam to support the rafters. The post and beam structure placement does exceed the set building setbacks stated in the recently adopted new LDC for the property, both to the Water street as well as the eastern neighbor side (see site plan).

The neighbor to the east has expressed full support to the owners plans for the structure, as it is proposed as open structure and does not have any impact on the used of their property.

For the above reasons we ask to receive a variance to the current building setback requirements on the side and rear setback of the property.

Please see attached plot plan, draft design and document for images on the current subject property, its neighborhood context and proposed design.

## SECTION 4: APPLICANTION CRITERIA

A Variance is requested from Article (s) 1.3.3.A.3 and 3.5.2

of the Zoning Regulations to permit:

structure outside the building setbacks on side & rear of the property (approx. 83sft outside the setback)

Briefly describe your responses to each criteria, using additional sheets if necessary:

1. Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest because:

The added structure is proposed and designed as an open post and beam structure with braces and timberframe joinery and fits within the appearance of the neighborhood. It will not be an enclosed structure and therefore does not impact visibility of foot and vehicle traffic on Water or South Lincoln Street;

The structure's placement would be within the regular side setback limits, were the property not a corner lot.

Due to the removal of the path to the sidewalk and coverage of the path along the building, only minimal, if any, impervious area is added.

# 2. If the variance were granted, the spirit of the ordinance would be observed because:

The additional structure would contribute to the spirit of the neighborhood by making sensible use of it. Its open nature does only minimally add to the 'density' of buildings on the lot itself or neighboring lots. The structure would be within the regular side setbacks if this property was not a corner lot. Minimal, if any impervious area is added.

#### 3. Granting the variance would do substantial justice because:

The structure further adds to the already permitted and made improvements to the property over the past few years. It adds to the already pleasant character of the neighborhood in east Keene. Using the additional roof area for additional solar panels promotes the use of Renewable energy systems in the public, supporting the cities '100% Sustainable Energy Resolution' passed in January 2019. It further promotes the upgrade and use of existing buildings vs demolition and new construction with its potential disruption of fitting appearance.

## 4. If the variance were granted, the values of the surrounding properties would not be diminished because:

The improvement of the property does enhance its own appearance with out interfering the use or appearance of other buildings or properties in the neighborhood. The detailed design and craftsmenship of its execution fits and further elevates the neighborhood character and value.

The detailed design and craftsmanship of this project integrates quality, aesthetics, and sustainability. This project offers an attractive feature, adding value to this home, and ultimately, to the neighborhood. Studies show that curb appeal can increase a home's value by 3-5%, which also benefits the value of the surrounding homes as well. Please see Fig 5-8 for reference

#### 5. Unnecessary Hardship

- A. Owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area, denial of the variance would result in unnecessary hardship because:
  - i. No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the ordinance provi sion and the specific application of that provision to the property because:

The condition of the property to be a corner lot and the applicable side setback restrictions stipulated in the LDC for such property decreases the allowable area for building construction.

In the current configuration, the driveway for the property can only be in the location it is in on the Water street side, due to length of road frontage, city tree placement on the South Lincoln side and distance requirements from a major intersection between both streets.

With this site layout and use, the side entrance has been serving as main entrance to the residence. Access from the driveway to the residence on the property has been along the side of the building as the most direct path to both driveway, garage and back yard of the property. With the nature of PV panels to release snow and ice in bulk during the winter months, the existing small awning over the door is insufficient, both structurally and in size, for safe access the side entrance of the residence.

The potential drifting and sliding snow load for a roof along the side of the building is too great for suspending a roof entirely of the 2x4 wall construction of the 1920 home.

A significant steel structure and design would be required for a cantilevered awning. Such is not in alignment for neighborhood character and not economically viable.

Not being able to place a solar PV system of appropriate size on the property to serve a home's electrical use (incl. Airsource Heatpump, EV charging) with renewable energy results in a significant loss of value and relevance of the property and in the neighborhood real estate.

ii. The proposed use is a reasonable one because:

The proposed addition is an attempt to balance historic aesthetic of the property with the requirements of today's and future technology and use.

B. Explain how, if the criterial in subparagraph (A) are not established, an unnecessary hardship will be deemed to exist if and only if, owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict conformance with the ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable use of it.

The restrictions, as placed in the ordinance, will not allow the use of renewable energy systems on this property without causing a hazard of sliding snow and ice for part of the year to the residents in their regular use of the home. This reduces the property value in comparison to other buildings and properties in the neighborhood.

Proposed Project: Porch structure on eave of building along Water Street side Property Location:196 South Lincoln street Property Owner: Jen Whitehead

## Subject property images:



Fig 1. Subject property with Dormer addition under construction showing side entrance



Fig 2. Subject property with Dormer addition under construction showing driveway and garage

# 11/17/2022



Fig 3. Subject property showing footpath from driveway to side door



Fig 4. Subject property showing proposed location of porch addition

Appearance and architectural design context in the neighborhood of the subject property and proposed project:



Fig 5. Subject property on left (prior to dormer addition) view from Water street; Existing open porch structure on neighboring residence



Fig 6. Subject property on right; **view from South Lincoln street** side; Existing open porch structure on neighboring residence



Fig 7. View west on Water Street shows homes with open porch structures similar to the one proposed for the subject property (note: property shown on right has recently had a fire, and will likely be demolished.)



## 3D views of proposed design

Fig 8. Subject property with **Proposed porch structure**


Fig 8. Subject property of **Proposed porch structure** 

Kee	25 foot Abutters List ene, NH rember 15, 2022	Report	
Subject Property	:		
Parcel Number:	587-001-000	Mailing Address:	WHITEHEAD JENNIFER J.
CAMA Number:	587-001-000-000-000		196 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.
Property Address:	196 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.		KEENE, NH 03431
Abutters:			
Parcel Number:	572-002-000	Mailing Address:	KELLY, JOELLEN 2020 REV TRUST
CAMA Number:	572-002-000-000-000		172 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.
Property Address:	172 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.		KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number:	572-003-000	Mailing Address:	MACE NICHOLAS JAMES
CAMA Number:	572-003-000-000-000		180 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.
Property Address:	180 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.		KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number:	572-004-000	Mailing Address:	COOPER AARON F.
CAMA Number:	572-004-000-000-000		190 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.
Property Address:	190 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.		KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number:	572-005-000	Mailing Address:	SHALIT ROBERT J. SHALIT TRACY L.J.
CAMA Number:	572-005-000-000-000		350 WATER ST.
Property Address:	350 WATER ST.		KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	572-006-000 572-006-000-000-000 115 WILBER ST.	Mailing Address:	DEKEYREL STEVEN M. ESTATE OF & HEIRS IF ANY 115 WILBER ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number:	572-007-000	Mailing Address:	MERCIER JILLIAN L.
CAMA Number:	572-007-000-000-000		107 WILBER ST.
Property Address:	107 WILBER ST.		KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number:	573-007-000	Mailing Address:	DOODY MARY JANE
CAMA Number:	573-007-000-000-000		185 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.
Property Address:	185 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.		KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	573-008-000 573-008-000-000-000 179 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.	Mailing Address:	DEAVER, ALICIA WURSCHMIDT DEAVER MCKINLEY WILSON JR. 179 SOUTH LINCOLN ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number:	573-009-000	Mailing Address:	PARODY DAVID S.
CAMA Number:	573-009-000-000-000		171 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.
Property Address:	171 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.		KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number:	586-012-000	Mailing Address:	RAMSEY, DAVID W.
CAMA Number:	586-012-000-000-000		294 WATER ST.
Property Address:	294 WATER ST.		KEENE, NH 03431

CAI Technologies

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## 225 foot Abutters List Report Keene, NH



November 15, 2022

Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	586-013-000 586-013-000-000-000 296-298 WATER ST.	Mailing Address:	EASTMAN, FRANCIS W. EASTMAN ANN D. 298 WATER ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	586-014-000 586-014-000-000-000 193 SOUTH LINCOLN ST.	Mailing Address:	CHABOTT DANIEL S. SR. CHABOTT JENNIFER L. 198 OLD WENDELL RD. NORTHFIELD, MA 01360-9673
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	586-017-000 586-017-000-000-000 17 HANCOCK ST.	Mailing Address:	BRECKENRIDGE ROBERT C. BRECKENRIDGE TRICIA E. 17 HANCOCK ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	586-018-000 586-018-000-000-000 11 HANCOCK ST.	Mailing Address:	ROBBINS DONNA SAVIDGE REV. TRUST 11 HANCOCK ST. KEENE, NH 03431-4226
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	586-019-000 586-019-000-000-000 297-299 WATER ST.	Mailing Address:	GNADE DOREEN L. ESTATE OF AND HEIRS IF ANY 299 WATER ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	586-020-000 586-020-000-000-000 4 FAIRFIELD CT.	Mailing Address:	CARMEL GRETCHEN G. 4 FAIRFIELD CT. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	586-021-000 586-021-000-000-000 10 FAIRFIELD CT.	Mailing Address:	SIZOO, JENNIFER MAPES 10 FAIRFIELD CT. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	587-002-000 587-002-000-000-000 324 WATER ST.	Mailing Address:	BARTLETT LINDSAY R. BARTLETT DAN S. 324 WATER ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	587-003-000 587-003-000-000-000 330-334 WATER ST.	Mailing Address:	EDMUNDS STANLEY R. 480 SPOFFORD RD. WESTMORELAND, NH 03467-4310
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	587-006-000 587-006-000-000-000 333 WATER ST.	Mailing Address:	WEBB LUCY S. 333 WATER ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	587-051-000 587-051-000-000-000 15 EASTERN AVE.	Mailing Address:	HARRIS, DOUGLAS E. HALL MIRANDA K. 15 EASTERN AVE. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	587-052-000 587-052-000-000-000 9 EASTERN AVE.	Mailing Address:	OUELLETTE, ANDRE VAN SANT C. ANN JESSIE 9 EASTERN AVE. KEENE, NH 03431

CAI Technologies

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11/15/2022

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Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	587-053-000 587-053-000-000-000 327 WATER ST.	Mailing Address:	SCHMIDL-GAGNE MARK SCHMIDL- GAGNE KIMBERLY A. 327 WATER ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	587-054-000 587-054-000-000-000 319 WATER ST.	Mailing Address:	WITTEN, ELIOT WITTEN BETHANY 319 WATER ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	587-055-000 587-055-000-000-000 0 WATER ST.	Mailing Address:	MONADNOCK AFFORDABLE HOUSING CORP 831 COURT ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	587-056-000 587-056-000-000-000 309 WATER ST.	Mailing Address:	MONADNOCK AFFORDABLE HOUSING CORP 831 COURT ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	587-057-000 587-057-000-000-000 16 HANCOCK ST.	Mailing Address:	RAINA, DOVE 16 HANCOCK ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	587-058-000 587-058-000-000-000 24 HANCOCK ST.	Mailing Address:	FLANDERS JAMES W. FLANDERS VICKI E. 24 HANCOCK ST. KEENE, NH 03431



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## 365 MAIN ST. ZBA 22-20



Petitioner requests a one additional dwelling unit in an existing barn totaling three units on the property per Chapter 100, Article 3.3.5 of the Zoning Regulations



### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

### ZBA 22-20

A meeting of the Zoning Board of Adjustment will be held on **Monday, December 5, 2022, at** 6:30 PM in City Hall Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 3 Washington St, Keene, New Hampshire to consider the following petition.

**<u>ZBA 22-20</u>**: Petitioner, Hilary Harris, requests a Variance for property located at 365 Main St., Tax Map #112-038-000-000 that is in the Low Density District. The Petitioner requests a Variance to permit a one additional dwelling unit in an existing barn totaling three units on the property, per Chapter 100, Article 3.3.5 of the Zoning Regulations.

You are receiving notice of this hearing as an abutter to or owner of property within 200-ft of the subject parcel.

This meeting is open to the public, and anyone wishing to speak on the proposal will be given an opportunity to be heard during the public hearing for this application. The application for this proposal is available for public review in the Community Development Department on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of City Hall between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm or online at https://keenenh.gov/zoning-board-adjustment

Comme Maren

Corinne Marcou, Zoning Clerk Notice issuance date November 23, 2022

City of Keene • 3 Washington Street • Keene, NH • 03431-3191 • www.keenenh.gov

### City of Keene, NH

### Zoning Board of Adjustment Variance Application



For Offi	ce L	lse O	nly:	
Case No	). <u>Z</u>	BA	122	20
Date Fil	led_	11/19	3012	022
Rec'd B	y C	sh	1	
Page	1	of	X	,
Rev'd b	У			

If you have questions on how to complete this form, please call: (603) 352-5440 or email: communitydevelopment@keenenh.gov

SECTION 1: CONTACT INFORMATION				
I hereby certify that I am the owner, applicant, or the authorized agent of the owner of the property upon which this appeal is sought and that all information provided by me is true under penalty of law. If applicant or authorized agent, a signed notification from the property				
owner is required.				
OWNER / APPLICANT				
NAME/COMPANY: Hilary Harris, AIA				
MAILING ADDRESS: 365 Main Street, Lower Unit, Keene, NH 03431				
PHONE: (303) 845-0469				
EMAIL: hilyharris@gmail.com				
SIGNATURE: Hilary Harris Date: 2022.11.18 09:15:06 -05'00'				
PRINTED NAME: Hilary Harris				
APPLICANT (if different than Owner/Applicant)				
NAME/COMPANY:				
MAILING ADDRESS:				
PHONE:				
EMAIL:				
SIGNATURE:				
PRINTED NAME:				
AUTHORIZED AGENT (if different than Owner/Applicant)				
NAME/COMPANY:				
MAILING ADDRESS:				
PHONE:				
EMAIL:				
SIGNATURE:				
PRINTED NAME:				

SECTION 2: PROPERTY INFORMATION	
Property Address: 365 Main Street, Keene, NH 03431	
Tax Map Parcel Number: 112-038-000-000-000	
Zoning District: Low Density	
Lot Dimensions: Front: 116.22' Rear: 274' Side: 235.1' Side: 322.9'	
Lot Area: Acres: 1.0 Square Feet: 43,560	
% of Lot Covered by Structures (buildings, garages, pools, decks, etc): Existing: 8% Proposed: 8%	
% of Impervious Coverage (structures plus driveways and/or parking areas, etc): Existing: 17% Proposed: 1	7%
Present Use: Multi-Family Duplex	
Proposed Use: Multi-Family Three Units (Additional unit in detached barn)	
SECTION 3: WRITTEN NARRATIVE	
Article 25.5.4.A.: Describe the property location, owner of the subject property, and explain the purpose effect of, and justification for, the proposed variance.	and
SEE ATTACHED	

4

#### SECTION 4: APPLICANTION CRITERIA

A Variance is requested from Article (s) 3.3.5

of the Zoning Regulations to permit:

#### SEE ATTACHED

Briefly describe your responses to each criteria, using additional sheets if necessary:

1. Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest because:

2. If the variance were granted, the spirit of the ordinance would be observed because:

#### SEE ATTACHED

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3. Granting the variance would do substantial justice because:

4. If the variance were granted, the values of the surrounding properties would not be diminished because:

SEE ATTACHED

5. Unnecessary Hardship

A. Owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area, denial of the variance would result in unnecessary hardship because:

i. No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the ordinance provi sion and the specific application of that provision to the property because:

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ii. The proposed use is a reasonable one because:

SEE ATTACHED

B. Explain how, if the criterial in subparagraph (A) are not established, an unnecessary hardship will be deemed to exist if and only if, owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict conformance with the ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable use of it.

### City of Keene, NH

### Zoning Board of Adjustment Certified Notice List



For Office L	ise Only:
Case No.	
Date Filled	
Rec'd By	
Page	of
Rev'd by	

If you have questions on how to complete an application, please call: (603) 352-5440 or email: communitydevelopment@keenenh.gov

#### 25.2.4 PUBLIC NOTICE

The submittal requirements for Public Notices are outlined further in Article 25.2 of the Land Development Code

Article 25.2.4.A.1: When a mailed notice is required, the applicant shall submit 2 sets of mailing labels for each abutter or person entitled to such notice in accordance with state law or the City code of Ordinances, and a mailing fee equal to the cost of the current United States Postal Service Certified Mail rate, at the time of application submission, unless otherwise specified in the Land Development Code.

Article 25.2.4.A.2: The appropriate review authority, or their designee, shall be responsible for issuing the mailed notice. Article 25.2.4.A.3: The mailed notice shall include, at a minimum, the date, time, place and purpose of such public hearing; the names of the applicant and property owner; and the address of the subject property. Such information shall be current to within 10 days of application submittal.

Article 25.2.4.A.4: The mailed notice shall be sent to the address used for mailing local property tax bills, which may be obtained from the City of Keene Assessing Department.

Article 25.2.4.A.5: The required timeframe for issuing mailed notice is specified in Table 25-2. This timeframe shall not include the day such notice is postmarked or the day of the public hearing or pubic meeting at which the application is first considered.

#### **NOTICE LIST & MAILING LABELS**

A notice list and two sets of mailing labels identifying any parties that require notice as part of the application process, will be submitted. Such information shall be current to within 10 days of application submittal. Per <u>NH RSA 676:7(I)(a)</u>, and Article 25 of the <u>Land Development Code</u>, the following parties must be noticed by verified mail no less than five days prior to the scheduled meeting:

- Property owner
- Applicant and, if appropriate, authorized agent
- All owners of property located within 200 feet of the subject parcel as well all owners of property that directly abuts and/ or is directly across the street or stream from the subject parcel
- Holders of conservation, preservation, or agricultural preservation restrictions

The Notice List shall include the following:

- Property owner's name
- Property owner's mailing address
- Street address, if different from mailing address
- Property tax map parcel (TMP) number

The City of Keene's <u>GIS Database</u> (axisgis.com/keenenh/) can be used to generate a Notice List and mailing labels. Instructions for creating these can be found following this link <u>Notice List Instructions</u> or on the <u>Zoning Board of Adjustment</u> page on the City website, under *ZBA Applications*.

#### **CERTIFY ACCURACY**

By signing below, you are certifying that the submitted notice list is accurate and true to the best of your ability and that per **Article 25.2.4.A.3**, the notice list is current to within 10 days of the application submittal.

**Hilary Harris Print Name** Hilary Harr

Signature

Digitally signed by Hilary Harris Date: 2022.11.18 09:16:01 -05'00'

11/18/22 Date

The mailing labels shall include the following:

Property owner's name

Property owner's mailing address

Property tax map parcel (TMP) number

NOTICE LIST				
is template can be used	s template can be used to record the name, mailing address, street address, and tax map parcel (TMP) # for each part that is required to be noticed as part of an application.			
OWNER NAME	MAILING ADDRESS	STREET ADDRESS (If different from mailing address)	TAX MAP PARCEL (TMP) #	
42				

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SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS			
A complete application must include the following items and submitted by one of the options below: Email: communitydevelopment@keenenh.gov, with "ZBA APPLICATION" in the subject line Mail / Hand Deliver: Community Development (4th Floor), Keene City Hall, 3 Washington St, Keene, NH 03431 The submittal requirements for a Variance application are outlined further in			
Article 25.5 of the Lar	nd Development Code.		
<b>SECTION THREE - WRITTEN NARRATIVE:</b> Briefly describe the property location, and explain the purpose and effect of, and justification for, the proposed variance.	<b>SECTION FOUR - APPLICATION CRITERIA:</b> Briefly respond to each criteria to provide a clear descrip- tion of the proposed project.		
<b>CERTIFIED ABUTTERS LIST:</b> A complete list of abutters within 200 feet of the subject parcel. See the attached Notice List Instruction Sheets for details.	<b>SITE PLAN:</b> The plan should show the locations and dimensions of all structures and open spaces on the lot in question and on the adjacent lots. Plans do not need to be professionally drawn.		
APPLICABLE FEES:   (checks made payable to City of Keene, credit cards accepted via phone or in person)   Application Fee: \$100.00   Legal Ad Fee: \$62.00   Certified Mail Fee: 19 # of abutters x 4.51 certified mail rate = \$6.83   (the Certified Mail Fee will be calculated by the Zoning Clerk upon submittal)			

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## ZONING VARIANCE APPLICATION



PREPARED FOR: City of Keene Zoning Board of Adjustment 3 Washington Street Keene, NH 03431

> PREPARED BY: Hilary Harris, AIA 365 Main Street Keene NH 03431

> > 1/6

#### SECTION 3 PROJECT NARRATIVE

**Article 25.4.5.A:** Describe the property location, owner of the subject property, and explain the purpose and effect of, and justification for, the proposed variance.

#### Location & Ownership

The property is located at 365 Main Street in Keene, NH. It sits on the west side of the southern end of Main Street. The property is one full acre with nearly 50% of the lot line abutting the Keene State Campus and 12% of it on Main Street. Directly across the street is another nonconforming property (The Carriage Barn Bed and Breakfast). The remainder of the property abuts two single family residences. It was purchased by Hilary Harris, a local architect and developer, in May of 2022.

#### Property Description

The property has two existing buildings. The two story, two unit house was built in 1880 and has 3,396 square feet of living space. The second building is a timber frame barn that was built in 1910. It has been moved three times since its original construction and currently sits on the west side of the property adjacent to and facing the Keene State Campus.

The property is a multi-family building which is a nonconforming use in the Low Density district. Historically it has experienced high intensity use as student housing with eight unrelated people living in it. The barn was being used as a bar and party hangout. Reports from the community indicate there were upwards of fourteen cars parked in the driveway at times.

At the time of purchase, the property had been managed to accommodate this high intensity use with minimal investments in property upkeep. Since the change in ownership, the primary house has seen multiple improvements, including bathroom, electrical and lighting upgrades, exterior repairs, wildlife removal and mitigation as well as interior improvements. The house is currently fully rented as workforce housing with a family of three living in the upstairs unit and the primary owner sharing the downstairs unit with working roommates.

#### Purpose, Effect & Justification

While only one unit, this project will provide an additional unit of housing with a focus on Net-Zero performance that is centrally located and walkable, with minimal impacts to the community and the environment.

2/6

#### The PURPOSE of this request is multifaceted.

- 1. This will provide an additional high performance housing unit
- 2. Reusing an existing building rather than disrupting a greenfield or wooded site is the most effective way to reduce carbon emissions in the built environment.
- 3. The project falls in lockstep with SMART Growth principles including:
  - a. Reinvesting in existing infrastructure
  - b. Rehabilitating existing buildings
  - c. Adds vitality to the neighborhood
  - d. Supports a walkable community that is adjacent to bicycle trails, the Keene State campus and downtown amenities
  - e. Preserves New Hampshire's open spaces, farmlands, wetlands and forests

<u>THE EFFECT</u> of this request is that the neighborhood will have an additional well-designed unit of much needed housing added to an area near the downtown that will have a lasting impact on the sustainable development of Keene.

**THE JUSTIFICATION** for adding an additional unit in the Low Density area is that:

- It will improve a neglected building that has no use other than unconditioned storage.
- It will encourage ownership stewardship of the property
- It will be done with sustainable principles of construction and operation
- It abuts a High Density Zone as well as high intensity & nonconforming uses in the Low Density Zone. Buildings in the Low Density Zone that abut 365 Main St that are non-conforming include:
  - Pondside Dormitory housing 154 students
  - 361 Main Street housing 13 students
  - The Carriage Barn Bed and Breakfast (Commercial Use)
  - The Bruder House (Commercial Use)
  - Wyman Tavern Museum (Commercial Use)

#### SECTION 4 APPLICATION CRITERIA

Article 3.3.5: A variance is requested from Article 3.3.5 Permitted Uses

Article 3.3.5 Low Density (LD) District Permitted Uses Dwelling, Single Family Units Proposed: 1 additional unit in an existing barn totalling 3 units on the property

#### 1. Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest because:

An old underutilized barn is contrary to the public interest. In its current state there is little incentive to keep the building in good condition and it has the potential to become a liability in the long run. It is a sound timber frame structure that, if maintained for living space, would contribute to an improved property on Main Street and the gateway to Keene.

#### 2. If the variance were granted, the spirit of the ordinance would be observed because:

- The proposed unit is a single dwelling unit that is residential in nature.
- There will be no additional buildings added and the large green space on the lot will be preserved.
- The property is more than four times the required size for a single family dwelling
- The building coverage is 27% less than the maximum building coverage allowed
- Total impervious surface is 28% less than the maximum allowed
- The percentage of green space on the property is 83%, which is 28% more than the minimum required in the ordinance
- There is ample enough parking space

#### 3. Granting the variance would do substantial justice because:

The built outcome would:

- Provide an additional housing unit in Keene
- Improve the property and the surrounding area
- Encourage better stewardship of the property
- Preserve a historic timber structure

## 4. If the variance were granted the values of the surrounding properties would not be diminished because:

This project revitalizes an existing building with an upgraded use in an environmentally sensitive manner. There will be an eye for quality, aesthetics and sustainability integrated into this project. It will improve the property and subsequently improve the values of the properties surrounding it. This upgrade will be an improvement to the surrounding neighborhood and to the City of Keene as a whole.

#### 5. Unnecessary Hardship

<u>A. Owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area, denial of the variance would result in unnecessary hardship because:</u>

- The property is significantly larger than the majority of properties in the surrounding area and directly abuts the Keene State campus. Out of 24 properties with street frontage on Main Street in this Low Density zone, 365 Main Street is one of two properties with a full acre lot. The remaining 22 lots are smaller, most of which are less than half the size.
- 2. While it sits in the Low Density Zone, the majority of the area abutting it is a high intensity use. It is located on Main Street with two lanes on each side including on-street parking.
- 3. The barn in its present state is usable only for cold storage. It is essentially an overbuilt garage that cannot be used to its full potential.

i. No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property because:

While the property is in the Low Density District it is surrounded by high intensity use. Adding a third unit to the property will have little to no effect to the intensity of the surrounding area.

ii. The proposed use is a reasonable one because:

- It is in line with the spirit of the surrounding area
- Reusing and revitalizing an existing building
- It encourages stewardship of the property
- It will not increase the intensity of occupancy (formerly eight unrelated people)
- There is enough parking to accommodate the use
- The impact on the property will be minimal (green space will remain as is)

B. Explain how, if the criteria in subparagraph (A) are not established, an unnecessary hardship will be deemed to exist if and only if, owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict conformance with the ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable use of it.

This variance would allow the revitalization of an existing neglected building. Without it, the barn will remain as is and the embodied energy built into the existing structure will not be leveraged at a time when sustainable housing solutions are needed.

6/6



#### **Subject Property:**

Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	112-038-000 112-038-000-000-000 365 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	HARRIS HILARY B. 8033 COUNTRYSIDE PARK, UNIT 206 NIWOT, CO 80503- 365 MAIN ST, LWZ UNIT SEENE, NH 03431
Abutters:			
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	112-033-000 112-033-000-000-000 27 APPLETON ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	112-034-000 112-034-000-000-000 23 APPLETON ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	112-035-000 112-035-000-000-000 21 APPLETON ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	112-036-000 112-036-000-000-000 15 APPLETON ST.	Mailing Address:	KALICH, KARRIE A. 420 MAIN ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	112-037-000 112-037-000-000-000 375 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	HOF PHILIP & PAMELA REV. TRUST 375 MAIN ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	112-039-000 112-039-000-000-000 361 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	112-040-000 112-040-000-000-000 18 BRUDER ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	112-041-000 112-041-000-000-000 17 BRUDER ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	112-043-000 112-043-000-000-000 339-349 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CHESHIRE COUNTY 339 MAIN ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-000-000 283 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301



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Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-001-000 97 APPLETON ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-002-000 90 WYMAN WAY	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-003-000 78 BRUDER ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-004-000 42 BRUDER ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-007-000 52 WYMAN WAY	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-008-000 36 WYMAN WAY	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-009-000 71 WYMAN WAY	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-010-000 311 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-011-000 305 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-012-000 281 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-013-000 36 APPIAN WAY	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-014-000 39 WYMAN WAY	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301

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Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-015-000 74 APPIAN WAY	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-016-000 65 APPIAN WAY	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-017-000 45 APPIAN WAY	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-018-000 19 APPIAN WAY	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-019-000 251 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-020-000 239 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-021-000 229 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-022-001 28 WINCHESTER ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-022-002 28 WINCHESTER ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-023-000 58 WINCHESTER ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
CAMA Number:	591-001-000 591-001-000-025-000 0OFF BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
CAMA Number:	591-001-000 591-001-000-026-000 102 APPIAN WAY	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301

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Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-027-000 39 MADISON ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-028-000 144 WINCHESTER ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-029-000 24 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-030-000 48 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-031-000 62 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-032-000 64 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-033-000 80 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-034-000 100 WYMAN WAY	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-035-000 83 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-036-000 79 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-037-000 73 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-038-000 59 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301



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Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-039-000 57 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-040-000 41 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-041-000 43 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-042-000 1 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	591-001-000 591-001-000-044-000 61 BUTLER CT.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	594-049-000 594-049-000-000-000 346 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	HOUSTON, KATHERINE KRAUTMANN HOUSTON JOHN C. J. 346 MAIN ST. KEENE, NH 03431-4146
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	594-050-000 594-050-000-000-000 358 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	CARRIAGE BARN INN LLC 55 MAIN STREET KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	594-051-000 594-051-000-000-000 370 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	SAKAL, ROBERT 370 MAIN ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	594-052-000 594-052-000-000-000 380 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	ALBERT FAMILY TRUST 380 MAIN ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	594-053-000 594-053-000-000-000 390 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	ORAM ANDREW T. ORAM LEATRICE A. 390 MAIN ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	594-082-000 594-082-000-000-000 399 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	JOHNSON SAMUEL M. JOHNSON KAREN O. 399 MAIN ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	594-083-000 594-083-000-000-000 389 MAIN ST.	Mailing Address:	ROARK NATHAN B. 389 MAIN ST. KEENE, NH 03431-4178

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Abutters List Report - Keene, NH

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Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address: 383 MAIN ST.

594-084-000 594-084-000-000-000 Mailing Address: LYLE COLIN R. LYLE KAREN J. 383 MAIN ST. KEENE, NH 03431



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365 MAIN STREET

365 MAIN STREET KEENE, NH 03431 14 NOVEMBER 2022

#### SCHEMATIC DESIGN 1



310 Marlboro Street Suite 266 Keene, New Hampshire 03431 (603) 638-7056

5 Market Street, Suite 202 Amesbury, Massachusetts 01913 (976) 378-2012

## 363 PEARL ST. ZBA 22-21



Petitioner requests the temporary use of a vacant lot for staging of an adjacent construction project per Chapter 100, Article 3.3 of the Zoning Regulations



## **NOTICE OF HEARING**

### ZBA 22-21

A meeting of the Zoning Board of Adjustment will be held on Monday, December 5, 2022, at 6:30 PM in City Hall Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 3 Washington St, Keene, New Hampshire to consider the following petition.

**<u>ZBA 22-21</u>**: Petitioner, Timothy St. Pierre of B.U.R. Construction, LLC of 940 John Stark Hwy, Newport, NH, requests a Variance for property located at 363 Pearl St., Tax Map #593-004-000-000-000 and owned by Adam Wright. The Petitioner requests a Variance to permit the temporary use of a vacant lot for staging of an adjacent construction project per Chapter 100, Article 3.3 of the Zoning Regulations.

You are receiving notice of this hearing as an abutter to or owner of property within 200-ft of the subject parcel.

This meeting is open to the public, and anyone wishing to speak on the proposal will be given an opportunity to be heard during the public hearing for this application. The application for this proposal is available for public review in the Community Development Department on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of City Hall between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm or online at https://keenenh.gov/zoning-board-adjustment

minulaxer

Corinne Marcou, Zoning Clerk Notice issuance date November 23, 2022

City of Keene • 3 Washington Street • Keene, NH • 03431-3191 • www.keenenh.gov

## City of Keene, NH

## Zoning Board of Adjustment Variance Application



or Office Use Only:
Case No. 2BA 22-21
Date Filled 11 18 (2022
Rec'd By MF
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Rev'd by

If you have questions on how to complete this form, please call: (603) 352-5440 or email: communitydevelopment@keenenh.gov

## SECTION 1: CONTACT INFORMATION

I hereby certify that I am the owner, applicant, or the authorized agent of the owner of the property upon which this appeal is sought and that all information provided by me is true under penalty of law. If applicant or authorized agent, a signed notification from the property owner is required.		
OWNER / APPLICANT		
NAME/COMPANY:		
MAILING ADDRESS:		
PHONE:		
EMAIL:		
SIGNATURE:		
PRINTED NAME:		
APPLICANT (if different than Owner/Applicant)		
NAME/COMPANY: B.U.R. Construction, LLC		
MAILING ADDRESS: 940 John Stark Hwy Newport NH 03773		
PHONE: (603) 410-7434		
EMAIL: admin@burconstruction.net		
SIGNATURE: Fm-m Sh		
PRINTED NAME: Timothy M St Pierre		
AUTHORIZED AGENT (if different than Owner/Applicant)		
NAME/COMPANY:		
MAILING ADDRESS:		
PHONE:		
EMAIL:		
SIGNATURE:		
PRINTED NAME:		

## City of Keene, NH

## Zoning Board of Adjustment Variance Application



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If you have questions on how to complete this form, please call: (603) 352-5440 or email: communitydevelopment@keenenh.gov

SECTION 1: CONTACT INFORMATION I hereby certify that I am the owner, applicant, or the authorized agent of the owner of the property upon which this appeal is sought and that all information provided by me is true under penalty of law. If applicant or authorized agent, a signed notification from the property owner is required.
OWNER / APPLICARIT
NAME/COMPANY: Adam Wright
MAILING ADDRESS: 4 Forbes Lone, Andover MA 01870 PHONE: 617-785-0478
PHONE: 617-785-0478
EMAIL: addim V 1919 @ Gmail. com
SIGNATURE:
PRINTED NAME: Adam Wright
APPLICANT (If different that Owner/Applicant)
NAME/COMPANY: B.U.R. Construction, LLC
MAILING ADDRESS: 940 John Stark Hwy Newport NH 03773
PHONE: (603) 410-7434
EMAIL: admin@burconstruction.net
SIGNATURE: Junit maller
PRINTED NAME: Timothy M St Pierre
AUTHORIZED AGENT (If different them Owner/Applicant)
NAME/COMPANY:
MAILING ADDRESS:
PHONE:
EMAIL:
SIGNATURE:
PRINTED NAME:

SECTION 2: PROPERTY INFORMATION			
Property Address: 363 Pearl Street			
Tax Map Parcel Number: Map/Lot #593/ / 004/000 000/000			
Zoning District: Low Density			
Lot Dimensions: Front: 147.5 Rear: 147.5 Side: 180.79 Side: 173.42			
Lot Area: Acres: .6 Square Feet: 26,123			
% of Lot Covered by Structures (buildings, garages, pools, decks, etc): Existing: 0 Proposed: 0			
% of Impervious Coverage (structures plus driveways and/or parking areas, etc): Existing: 0 Proposed: 0			
Present Use: Vacant			
Proposed Use: Temporary Construction Staging Area			
SECTION 3: WRITTEN NARRATIVE			
Article 25.5.4.A.: Describe the property location, owner of the subject property, and explain the purpose and effect of, and justification for, the proposed variance.			
The property is a .6 acre vacant lot. Its adjacent to an intensive road reconstruction project which involves Pearl Street, Island Street & Winchester Street.			
BUR has an agreement with the property owner Adam Wright, to utilize the vacant lot for temporary staging, specifically related to the Winchester Street Reconstruction Project.			
The property will be returned to its original condition upon conclusion of this project in 2023.			

#### **SECTION 4: APPLICANTION CRITERIA**

A Variance is requested from Article (s) 3.3

of the Zoning Regulations to permit:

The temporary use of vacant lot for staging of adjacent construction project.

Briefly describe your responses to each criteria, using additional sheets if necessary:

1. Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest because:

1. It prevents construction "sprawl" and allows a tight construction footprint.

2. Its a tempoary use; and allows for improved traffic movement, and decreased noise dust and other environmental impacts, related to the construction project.

3. The property is adjacent to a commercial zone and adjacent to active construction being serviced by the lot.

4. The short term impact of the use, is a benefit to the public and the long term impact is non-existent, as the property is returned to its original condition.

#### 2. If the variance were granted, the spirit of the ordinance would be observed because:

The variance wouldnt alter the the essential character of the locality. Temporary staging will occur on Pearl Street regardless of the variance determination. The only change would be; temporary staging would occur in the traffic lane, thus negatively impact the traveling public, with authorized daily lane closures on Pearl Street until the projects conclusion at the end of 2023.

The property is returned to its original condition upon conclusion of 2023; so there is no altering of the character of the locality long term.

The variance would not threaten public health, safety or welfare. In fact it dramatically improves all three, by safely and neatly organizing essential materials need for the construction project in one adjacent location. Thus improving traffic flow, and reducing environmental impacts associated with the completion of the construction project.

#### 3. Granting the variance would do substantial justice because:

1. It doesn alter the spitrit of the ordinance.

- 2. The area is impacted by construction, regardless of the variance.
- 3. No long term impacts to the locality, as the lot is returned to its original condition.
- 4. Its a benefit to public saftey, health & wellness, especially as it related to traffic movements.
- 5. The lot is adjacent to the construction project, and is perfectly situated to allow this neccesary use,

while mitigating traffic and the environmental impacts of an existing, intense construction project.

4. If the variance were granted, the values of the surrounding properties would not be diminished because:

1. The property is being returned to its original condition at the end of 2023.

2. Short term impacts associated with the construction project exist with or without the use. the latter just reloctes short term staging, in the travel lane of Pearl Street as permitted by the project.

#### 5. Unnecessary Hardship

- A. Owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area, denial of the variance would result in unnecessary hardship because:
  - i. No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the ordinance provi sion and the specific application of that provision to the property because:

A The property is vacant and of sufficient size, to allow for staging of needed construction materials. The property is adjacent to the active construction project. Due to its size and proximity, and in conjuction with the short term need and the return to original coindition in 2023, its use is reasonable without altering the spirit of the ordinance.

i. The use is temporary, and the impacts of the use exist, regardless of the variance. Thus it does not alter any public purpose of the ordinance.

The variance would not injure the public or private right to others.

#### and

- ii. The proposed use is a reasonable one because:
- 1. A zoning restriction as applied, interferes with a reasonable use of the property.
- 2. The vacancy, size and proximtey of the property in relation to an active construction project.
- 3. No long term impacts, as the property is returned to its original condition in 2023.
- 4. Improved traffic, safety, and welness to the public.
- 5. The varaince would not injure the public or private rights of others.

B. Explain how, if the criterial in subparagraph (A) are not established, an unnecessary hardship will be deemed to exist if and only if, owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict conformance with the ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable use of it.

Its the only vacant, adjacent property of sufficient size to adequately provide for the intended use. Utilizing a temporary staging area not adjacent to the project, or outside the city limits, will only add to traffic congestion, and environmental impacts associated with intensive construction projects. Denial does not change the outcome, as we would add an additional staging area of conformance but still utilize Pearl Street by instituting daily lane closures to stage short term equipment and materials.

Island Street will be closed for 35 weeks and active construction will envelop Key Rd, Island Street, Winchester Street, and Pearl Street. Daily lane closures will dramatically impact traffic congestion, in an already impacted commerical area, with a high traffic count.

## City of Keene, NH

## Zoning Board of Adjustment Certified Notice List



For Office Use Only: Case No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date Filled \_\_\_\_\_\_ Rec'd By \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_of \_\_\_\_\_ Rev'd by \_\_\_\_\_

If you have questions on how to complete an application, please call: (603) 352-5440 or email: communitydevelopment@keenenh.gov

#### **25.2.4 PUBLIC NOTICE**

The submittal requirements for Public Notices are outlined further in Article 25.2 of the Land Development Code

Article 25.2.4.A.1: When a mailed notice is required, the applicant shall submit 2 sets of mailing labels for each abutter or person entitled to such notice in accordance with state law or the City code of Ordinances, and a mailing fee equal to the cost of the current United States Postal Service Certified Mail rate, at the time of application submission, unless otherwise specified in the Land Development Code.

Article 25.2.4.A.2: The appropriate review authority, or their designee, shall be responsible for issuing the mailed notice. Article 25.2.4.A.3: The mailed notice shall include, at a minimum, the date, time, place and purpose of such public hearing; the names of the applicant and property owner; and the address of the subject property. Such information shall be current to within 10 days of application submittal.

Article 25.2.4.A.4: The mailed notice shall be sent to the address used for mailing local property tax bills, which may be obtained from the City of Keene Assessing Department.

Article 25.2.4.A.5: The required timeframe for issuing mailed notice is specified in Table 25-2. This timeframe shall not include the day such notice is postmarked or the day of the public hearing or pubic meeting at which the application is first considered.

#### **NOTICE LIST & MAILING LABELS**

A notice list and two sets of mailing labels identifying any parties that require notice as part of the application process, will be submitted. Such information shall be current to within 10 days of application submittal. Per <u>NH RSA 676:7(I)(a)</u>, and Article 25 of the <u>Land Development Code</u>, the following parties must be noticed by verified mail no less than five days prior to the scheduled meeting:

- Property owner
- Applicant and, if appropriate, authorized agent
- All owners of property located within 200 feet of the subject parcel as well all owners of property that directly abuts and/ or is directly across the street or stream from the subject parcel
- Holders of conservation, preservation, or agricultural preservation restrictions

The Notice List shall include the following:

- Property owner's name
- Property owner's mailing address
- Street address, if different from mailing address
- Property tax map parcel (TMP) number

The mailing labels shall include the following:

Property owner's name Property owner's mailing address Property tax map parcel (TMP) number

The City of Keene's <u>GIS Database</u> (axisgis.com/keenenh/) can be used to generate a Notice List and mailing labels. Instructions for creating these can be found following this link <u>Notice List Instructions</u> or on the <u>Zoning Board of Adjustment</u> page on the City website, under *ZBA Applications*.

#### **CERTIFY ACCURACY**

By signing below, you are certifying that the submitted notice list is accurate and true to the best of your ability and that per **Article 25.2.4.A.3**, the notice list is current to within 10 days of the application submittal.

Timothy M St Pierre

Print Name

11/18/2022 Date

Signature







200 foot Abutters List Report Keene, NH

November 10, 2022

#### Subject Property:

Parcel Number:	593-004-000	Mailing Address:	WRIGHT ADAM E.
CAMA Number:	593-004-000-000-000		19 CHASE PL.
Property Address:	363 PEARL ST.		KEENE, NH 03431

#### Abutters:

Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	111-001-000 111-001-000-000-000 332 WINCHESTER ST.	Mailing Address:	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NH KEENE STATE COLLEGE 5 CHENELL DR. SUITE 301 CONCORD, NH 03301
Parcel Number:	592-019-000	Mailing Address:	CITY OF KEENE
CAMA Number:	592-019-000-000-000		3 WASHINGTON ST.
Property Address:	0 WINCHESTER ST.		KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number:	592-020-000	Mailing Address:	SAUNDERS LAURENCE R.
CAMA Number:	592-020-000-000-000		139 NELSON RD.
Property Address:	291 WINCHESTER ST.		HARRISVILLE, NH 03450-5405
Parcel Number:	592-021-000	Mailing Address:	SAUNDERS LAURENCE R.
CAMA Number:	592-021-000-000-000		139 NELSON RD.
Property Address:	371 PEARL ST.		HARRISVILLE, NH 03450-5405
Parcel Number:	592-022-000	Mailing Address:	CARBONE TIMOTHY J. REV. TRUST
CAMA Number:	592-022-000-000-000		2629 ROYAL RIDGE DR.
Property Address:	199 ISLAND ST.		SPRING HILL, FL 34606
Parcel Number:	592-023-000	Mailing Address:	CARBONE TIMOTHY J. REV. TRUST
CAMA Number:	592-023-000-000-000		2629 ROYAL RIDGE DR.
Property Address:	185-193 ISLAND ST.		SPRING HILL, FL 34606
Parcel Number:	593-001-000	Mailing Address:	MCDONALDS CORP (28/9)
CAMA Number:	593-001-000-000-000		PO BOX 6300
Property Address:	311 WINCHESTER ST.		AMHERST, NH 03031-6300
Parcel Number:	593-003-000	Mailing Address:	ALLEN STEPHEN J.
CAMA Number:	593-003-000-000-000		305 WINCHESTER ST.
Property Address:	305 WINCHESTER ST.		KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number:	593-005-000	Mailing Address:	WRIGHT ADAM E.
CAMA Number:	593-005-000-000-000		19 CHASE PL.
Property Address:	347 PEARL ST.		KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number:	593-006-000	Mailing Address:	BEMIS ALLAN C.
CAMA Number:	593-006-000-000-000		14 WOODSIDE AVE.
Property Address:	339 PEARL ST.		KEENE, NH 03431



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# 200 foot Abutters List Report Keene, NH November 10, 2022

Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	593-007-000 593-007-000-000-000 331 PEARL ST.	Mailing Address:	WRIGHT MICHAEL C. 19 CHASE PL. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	593-053-000 593-053-000-000-000 328 PEARL ST.	Mailing Address:	BEGIN JOSEPH R. REVOCABLE TRUST 100 ARLINGTON AVE. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	593-058-000 593-058-000-000-000 11 WAGNER ST.	Mailing Address:	PERRY MICHAEL PERRY JACKIE 59 BOW CENTER RD. BOW, NH 03304
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	593-059-000 593-059-000-000-000 344 PEARL ST.	Mailing Address:	WRIGHT JAMES W. JR. WRIGHT PATRICIA A. 344 PEARL ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	593-060-000 593-060-000-000-000 352 PEARL ST.	Mailing Address:	WHIPPIE, DAVID RICHARD WHIPPIE LAUREL R. 352 PEARL ST. KEENE, NH 03431
Parcel Number: CAMA Number: Property Address:	593-061-000 593-061-000-000-000 364 PEARL ST.	Mailing Address:	LAMBERT SCOTT C. 333 MONADNOCK HWY. SWANZEY, NH 03446



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- A public hearing shall be held within forty-five (45) ninety (90) days of the b. receipt of an application, provided that the applicant may waive this requirement and consent to such extension as may be mutually agreeable. If a zoning board of adjustment determines that it lacks sufficient information to make a final decision on an application and the applicant does not consent to an extension, the board may, in its discretion, deny the application without prejudice, in which case the applicant may submit a new application for the same or substantially similar request for relief. unless extended by the Board for good cause shown. Public notice of public hearings on each application shall be published in the local newspaper and shall be posted at two locations, of which one posting may be on the City internet website, not less than five (5) days before the date fixed for the hearing. Notice shall include the name of the applicant, description of property to include tax map identification, action desired by the applicant, all applicable provisions of the zoning ordinance, the type of appeal being made, and the date, time, and place of the hearing.
  - i. Personal notice shall be made by Certified Mail to the applicant and to all abutters and holders of conservation, preservation or agricultural preservation restrictions not less than five (5) days before the date of the hearing.
- c. **Plot Plans**: A scale drawing showing the location and dimensions of all structures and open spaces on the subject lot and on the adjacent lots. Plans need not be professionally drawn, but must be a sufficient and accurate representation of the property. Plans deemed to be insufficient by the Clerk shall be returned, and no public hearing shall be scheduled until the receipt of an acceptable plan. The plot plan is to be a minimum of  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$  inches.
- d. **Abutter Notification Materials**: For the purpose of abutter notification, the following items shall be submitted with the application:
  - An abutters list that includes all owners of properties that directly abut and/or that are across the street or stream from the parcel(s) that will be subject to review, and all owners of properties located within two hundred (200) feet of the parcel(s) that will be subject to review. The certified list shall include all property owner names, property street addresses, property tax map parcel numbers, and mailing addresses if different from the property address. In the case of an abutting property being under a condominium or other collective form of ownership, the term abutter means the officers of the collective or association as defined in RSA 356-B:3, XXIII.
  - ii. Two (2) sets of legible mailing labels (Avery size 5160 or equivalent) for each abutter and including the owner of the property that will be subject to review and his/her designated agent(s).

i.

- o. The Board may continue a public hearing to a place, date and time certain announced by the Chair without further public notice.
- B. **Voting:** Except as determined by the Board, the Board shall decide all cases immediately after the public hearing. Prior to voting the action, the Board shall render, as appropriate, findings of fact by majority vote. The Board will approve, approve with conditions, deny the appeal, or defer its decision.
- C. **Decisions:** Notice of the Decision will be made available for public inspection within five (5) business days as required by RSA 676:3, *I* and will be sent to the applicant by regular mail. *The decision shall include specific written findings of fact that support the decision.* If the appeal is denied, the notice shall include the reasons therefore. The notice shall also be given to the Planning Board, the Community Development Department, Assessor, and other City officials as determined by the Board. Decisions shall be based upon (1) all relevant facts and evidence introduced at the public hearing, (2) the application, (3) the Zoning Ordinance, and (4) applicable law.
- D. **Rehearing by the Board:** The Board may reconsider a decision to grant or deny an application, or any other decision or order of the Board, provided a Motion for Rehearing is submitted to the Board no later than thirty (30) calendar days commencing with the date following the date of the action of the Board for which the rehearing is requested. Motions for rehearing can only be received in the office of the Board during normal business hours of Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m.to 4:30 p.m., City Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Community Development Department.
- E. **Motions for Rehearing:** The Board shall deliberate the Motion for Rehearing within thirty (30) days of the date of the filing of the Motion. The deliberation by the Board shall not require a public hearing, and shall be conducted solely by the Board and based upon the contents of the Motion. If the Board grants a motion for rehearing, the new public hearing shall be held within thirty (30) of the decision to grant the rehearing provided all notice fees are paid and an updated abutters list is submitted by the party requesting the rehearing. Notification of the rehearing shall follow the procedures set forth in RSA 676:7.
- F. **Appeal:** Any further appeal of a final decision or order of the Board shall be in accordance with RSA 677:4, *et seq.*
- G. **Records:** The records of the Board shall be kept by the Clerk and made available for public inspection from the Clerk at City Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Community Development Department, in accordance with RSA 673:17.
  - a. Final written decisions will be placed on file and available for public inspection within five (5) business days after the decision is made. RSA 676:3.