TOWN OF CORTLANDT

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARDS

PLANNING BOARD MEETING

1 Heady Street Cortlandt Manor, New York 10567 October 3, 2023 6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. October 3, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steven Kessler, Chairman David Douglas, Member Nora Hildinger, Member Peter McKinley, Member Jeffrey Rothfeder, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Chris Kehoe, AICP, Director of Planning Michael Cunningham, Deputy Town Attorney Joseph Fusillo, P.E., Planning Board Engineer

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_ 2	(The board meeting commenced at 6:30 p.m.)
3	MULTIPLE: I pledge allegiance to the
4	flag of the United States of America and to the
5	Republic for which it stands, one nation under
6	God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for
7	all.
8	MR. STEVEN KESSLER: Thank you. Chris,
9	roll please.
10	MR. CHRIS KEHOE: Ms. Hildinger?
11	MS. NORA HILDINGER: Here.
12	MR. KEHOE: Mr. Rothfeder?
13	MR. JEFFREY ROTHFEDER: Here.
14	MR. KEHOE: Mr. Kessler?
15	MR. KESSLER: Here.
16	MR. KEHOE: Mr. Douglas?
17	MR. DAVID DOUGLAS: Here.
18	MR. KEHOE: Mr. McKinley?
19	MR. PETER MCKINLEY: Here.
20	MR. KEHOE: Mr. Kabasa and Mr. Bianchi
21	noted as absent.
22	MR. KESSLER: Thank you. We have no
23	changes to the agenda this evening, and can I
24	please have a motion to adopt the minutes from

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2	our meeting of September 5th?
3	MS. HILDINGER: I'll make a motion.
4	MR. MCKINLEY: Second. Second.
5	MR. KESSLER: Second. Thank you, on the
6	question. All in favor?
7	MULTIPLE: Aye.
8	MR. KESSLER: Opposed? Alright. First
9	item under correspondence, it's a letter dated
10	September 28th, 2023 from David Steinmetz
11	requesting the second one year time extension of
12	site development plan approval for NRP Properties
13	located at 119 Oregon Road. Good evening, Mr.
14	Steinmetz.
15	MR. DAVID STEINMETZ: Good Evening. Mr.
16	Chairman, members of the board.
17	MR. KESSLER: Anything to say?
18	MR. STEINMETZ: No. This is self-
19	explanatory. The only thing that I would note is
20	that while it was NRP as the original applicant,
21	the property has changed hands. I believe the
22	town staff is aware of that. And, uh, while the
23	new purchaser is trying to figure out what they
24	wish to do with the property, whether they wish

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2	to pursue that which was previously approved or
3	modify it, we're asking that the approvals be
4	kept in effect. Okay. Thank you. Mr. Douglas.
5	MR. DOUGLAS: Okay. I make a motion that
6	we approve the requested second one, one year
7	time extension of the, for site development plan
8	in accordance to the resolution number 11-23, the
9	draft of which has been circulated to us.
10	MR. KESSLER: Thank you. Second, please.
11	MR. ROTHFEDER: Second.
12	MR. KESSLER: On the motion. All in
13	favor?
14	MULTIPLE: Aye.
15	MR. KESSLER: Opposed? All right, next
16	item under correspondence, a letter dated
17	September 28th, 2023 from David Steinmetz
18	requesting a six-month time extension re-approval
19	for VS Construction Corporation for site
20	development plan approval, and a special permit
21	for a contractor's yard and rock crushing for
22	property located at 180 Roa Hook Road. Good
23	evening.
24	MR. STEINMETZ: Good Evening once again,

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David Steinmetz on behalf of VS Construction. We, we spoke with you several months back about the ROA Hook Road operation that Mr. Santucci has been operating for some time. There is a prior approval that was granted by this board several years ago, and we were tasked by your board when you granted us a temporary extension to work with staff to address conditions that were imposed on the original special permit, as well as to review some materials that staff had generated quite some time ago as well.

I want to thank Mr. Fusillo and staff 13 14 for being willing to work with us. We have submitted a number of materials and, and answers 15 16 and information, and I believe I, I'm going to 17 let Mr. Fusillo speak for himself. I believe we 18 have gotten over most of the questions that were 19 raised and that is why we're asking for an 20 additional six-month extension so that we can 21 complete that review in, in accordance with the 22 town's instructions.

23 MR. KESSLER: Okay, so as you stated, so
24 it's two retroactives and a six-month review --

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2	MR. STEINMETZ: Prospective.
3	MR. KESSLER: And you'll come back on
4	time in the six months, I hope?
5	MR. STEINMETZ: I sure hope so. I, I
6	think we have some work to do with staff and
7	possibly with the town board, but we again wanted
8	to keep these approvals alive and, and this
9	facility operating.
10	MR. KESSLER: Alright, thank you. Any,
11	any questions from the board? If not, Ms.
12	Hilding?
13	MS. HILDINGER: With PB 2017-1, I make a
14	motion for a two-year retroactive time extension
15	and a six-month extension approval.
16	MR. KESSLER: Second, please.
17	MR. ROTHFEDER: Second.
18	MR. KEHOE: I think that
19	MR. KESSLER: It's Resolution 12-23.
20	MR. KEHOE: Well, but it's also, it's a
21	typo. I think it's 2017-3 is the appropriate PB
22	number.
23	MR. KESSLER: Oh, yes.
24	MR. KEHOE: Right, not dash one.

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2	MS. HILDINGER: Okay.
3	MR. KEHOE: As Mr. Kessler pointed out
4	to me.
5	MR. MCKINLEY: Second.
6	MR. KESSLER: Second, thank you. On the
7	question? All in favor?
8	MULTIPLE: Aye.
9	MR. KESSLER: Opposed? Alright, next
10	item is a public hearing. It's a, a, a new public
11	hearing. It's the application of VS Construction
12	Corporation for preliminary and final plat
13	approval for a six-lot subdivision, five building
14	lots, for property located at 2003 Crompond Pond
15	Road, Route 202, drawing dated July 18, 2023. Mr.
16	Steinmetz, hello again.
17	MR. STEINMETZ: I promise I will leave
18	after this. David Steinitz from the law firm of
19	Zarin and Steinmetz, representing VS Construction
20	in connection with the Evergreen Manor
21	subdivision. I will attempt to be brief because
22	we have previously discussed this. We filed for
23	preliminary subdivision plat approval with regard
24	to the 28-acre Evergreen Manor site.

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We originally came in and showed you a number of lots which made sense to our client and our team for a variety of future development, 4 financing, legal and other reasons. You raised a number of questions and issues, some of which we thought were, were really terrific suggestions about why had the surveyor labeled the road as a lot rather than simply a parcel. Correct, it's been corrected. Were the open space, excuse me, 11 were the wetland areas appropriately included 12 within lots? Should they be open space parcels, 13 again, something that we as a team looked at and 14 modified.

15 And most importantly, you communicated 16 your concern that you felt there were too many 17 potential lots being depicted. And I tried to 18 explain why we were doing that for potential 19 future development, particularly of the 20 residential townhouses, possibly by more than one 21 developer. We had some difficulty getting over 22 that issue with you. And, and rather than arguing 23 the point Mr. Steinberg from DTS, I and the 24 Santuccis have agreed to submit a simplified

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subdivision plat, which is really designed to do one thing primarily. The one thing is to create a lot for the assisted living at the front left hand corner, lot one. That's what I would call the northeast corner of the property. That is the lot and the area that we have always indicated there would be an assisted living residential project.

10 We have a very interested assisted 11 living developer, but we have not come in with a 12 site plan yet because the assisted living 13 developer wanted to see where the lot would be. 14 And there's kind of this chicken and the egg. You want to see the site plan. They want to know that 15 16 Mr. Santucci has a viable lot that they could 17 potentially develop. And I have said to the chair 18 and to the board, we understand that if you 19 ultimately subdivide the property and you don't 20 like the way the site plan fits on that 21 individual lot, you're going to tell us that. And 22 we may potentially have to move that or expand 23 the lot or change it. We, we got it. We 24 understand that.

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2	However we feel compelled for legal,
3	financing and the ability to advance the project,
4	we feel compelled to pursue the subdivision at
5	this time. We are allowed to pursue the
6	subdivision at this time. So what I would
7	suggest, because we had filed a subdivision
8	application for the version of the subdivision
9	that you did not like, you have the right under
10	section 276 of the New York State Town Law to
11	approve a preliminary plat with conditions.
12	I would recommend that the condition
13	that you impose, should you ultimately grant
14	preliminary approval, is you must eliminate these
15	lines and come back in when you come in for final

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approval with a, fill in the blank, three-lot subdivision is what we are recommending. That's number one.

19Number two, during the work session, you20were kind enough to share publicly your concern21about the wetland crossing. You can certainly22discuss that with us. The wetland crossing has23been shown throughout this four, five year24process. It has been studied by our, our team. It

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has been studied by the town's consultants and by staff. And most importantly, it was the subject of a DEIS and FEIS. And a finding statement that concluded there was no significant adverse environmental impact associated with that crossing.

Number three, you raised some concern 8 9 about the road. The road again, or you had 10 questions, I don't want to say concern. The road, 11 there was a question. The road was located where 12 it is because it was geometrically to be aligned 13 with Conklin, so that we could have the 14 signalized intersection at Conklin servicing the 15 entrance to this project. So that's where the 16 beginning point of the road needed to be. What it 17 does horizontally and vertically after it enters 18 the property is something that I would defer to 19 Matt Steinberg to explain if you have questions. 20 But that road evolved during the process. It's 21 not just placed on a map. It's not willy-nilly. 22 It's actually engineered thoughtfully from a 23 utility grading and locational standpoint. So we 24 can answer that if you have questions about that.

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And the only other thing that I would say as a part of my opening comment, we are here tonight strictly and solely with regard to lot line drawing in accordance with the New York State section 276 of the town law and your appropriate subdivision regs.

We're not here to talk about the site 8 9 plans because as you made clear to me, we haven't 10 filed for site plan. We haven't given you fully 11 baked site plans. So we're here tonight for the 12 road, the utilities and the lot lines. 13 Understanding, all of it could potentially change 14 as we come back in the future, if things change 15 from the world of development. Right now, we have 16 an assisted living developer that wants to be on 17 lot one. We believe we have a residential 18 developer that ultimately wants to be where we 19 showed the 99 townhouses and studied the 99 20 townhouses. None of that has been finalized. So 21 we're here simply for lot lines.

22 MR. KESSLER: Alright, so just one 23 question, David. So, you said, you know, why 24 don't we approve the six and with conditions to

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say make it three, why not you presented us with the three. Why aren't we just dealing, why aren't we just dealing with like, say this amended side plan?

MR. STEINMETZ: That's fine. I, the, the answer to that is if you are comfortable doing that, perfectly fine. We, I didn't want to refile a, a new application for three. Instead we submitted that. If, if you will incorporate that into our application, that's perfectly fine. So the answer is I think we're reaching the same conclusion differently, perfectly fine with us. That's, Mr. Chairman, that's exactly why Matt and our surveyor worked very hard in the last month to give you what we thought you were asking.

17 MR. KESSLER: Okay. And, and I'm sorry, 18 I have one more question then. So why isn't it 19 just the right of way and lot one and the -- and 20 have lot three included as part of everything 21 else? With the lot, with the road coming off the 22 side there, which is its own lot, the, yeah, so 23 the, the -- the center going, you know the north 24 south there?

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2	MR. STEINMETZ: Yes.
3	MR. KESSLER: And that lot there, yes.
4	So why is that one carved out as well? I
5	understand what your needs on the assisted living
6	down in the lower right and the whole rest of the
7	property is the lot line, but you've also then
8	singled out that road right in the middle north,
9	south and that lot up above.
10	MR. STEINMETZ: And, and again, I
11	apologize, but, but the numbers have changed. By
12	lot three, we're, we're
13	MR. KESSLER: That's lot three right
14	there.
15	MR. STEINMETZ: Okay.
16	MR. KEHOE: And, and the tail.
17	MR. STEINMETZ: That's fine.
18	MR. KESSLER: Right.
19	MR. STEINMETZ: So the, the best answer
20	I can give you is because we've been candid with
21	the town that we are holding onto that area to
22	potentially develop it in accordance with the MOD
23	if there is a use that works there which would be
24	different from the townhouses. The townhouses we

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2	know are elsewhere on the property. They've been
3	studied elsewhere on the property. So we want
4	by, by no means did we want to put something out
5	there where it looked as if nothing would ever go
6	there. Something could potentially go there. So
7	we would like to have the lot. We could always
8	come back in and carve it later.
9	MR. KESSLER: So, when you come in with
10	a proposal for this property, are you going to
11	have something there? Or is it
12	MR. STEINMETZ: I don't know the answer
13	to that.
14	MR. KESSLER: Oh, Okay.
15	MR. STEINMETZ: I don't, I don't have
16	something for that right now. Though I would love
17	to be able to go to market, since my client owns
18	27 acres, and my client went through a SEQR
19	process that indicated from an impact standpoint
20	that a 10,000 square foot building could go there
21	and not have a significant adverse environmental
22	impact, that building would have to now comport
23	with the zoning MOD zoning changes that occurred
24	in the final days before adoption, things

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2	changed. But I would like to be able to have Mr.
3	Santucci go to market and say, look, I've got a
4	lot over here that extends out to Lafayette and
5	maybe you could make use of it, prospective
6	purchaser. So that's why I'd like to have a lot.
7	And there's nothing unlawful about my client
8	under 276 asking the town to form a lot that
9	comports with zoning.
10	MR. KESSLER: Okay. So, before we get to
11	the public, any comments from anybody on the
12	board?
13	MR. DOUGLAS: I've got, I've got two
14	things. One, something I need, I need to have
15	clarified. And maybe it's because I'm relatively
16	new on this particular board. With regard to the
17	wetland, am I understanding correctly that it's
18	your position that because of findings by the
19	town board, we don't really have any say as to
20	wetland impacts or am I misunderstanding?
21	MR. STEINMETZ: So the, let's, let's
22	despite your short tenure on this board, Mr.
23	Douglas, we, we both know that you've got a lot
24	of experience with SEQR and land use and

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2	MR. DOUGLAS: Okay. As far as
3	MR. STEINMETZ: how many years were
4	you on the zoning board torturing me? How many?
5	MR. DOUGLAS: It's, It's false modesty.
6	MR. STEINMETZ: Okay. Anyway, having
7	said that the nuance here is critical. I am not
8	saying your words, that you have no authority to
9	do anything. I, I never said that. Even if I
10	believed it, I know the chair too well, I
11	wouldn't say it. So I don't believe that that's
12	the case. I think you have locational capability,
13	you can move things around. You have to have a
14	rational basis for that, like on any site plan,
15	so you can't just do it because you don't like me
16	and you want me to leave. So you have to have a
17	basis.
18	What I have said to you, all kidding
19	aside, is these guys spent years studying that
20	wetland, that wetland crossing what might go
21	there. And it's not like it was done without
22	thoughtful analysis, not just by the applicant,
23	but by the guys over there in the penalty box who
24	are town employees. So we wouldn't have gotten a

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2	finding statement under SEQR, but for them
3	signing off and their outside consultants.
4	So what SEQR tells me, Mr. Douglas, is
5	there's no significant environmental there's
6	no significant adverse environmental impact of
7	what we designed and what we showed. So with that
8	as a, as a legal parameter and your board, your
9	board is bound into that because you're an
10	involved agency. You were noticed, we showed up
11	here, you guys, before you were on the board,
12	provided comments to the town board as lead
13	agency throughout the SEQR process. So you can't
14	ignore the SEQR process that you all participated
15	in.
16	Beyond that, we, we look forward to
17	working cooperatively with your board to locate
18	the townhouses and explain why, and let's I'll
19	let DTS do it. Why the roads, the drive, the, the
20	driveways, the, the ultimate townhouse lots, why
21	they work in that area or why they don't work.
22	That's not tonight's meeting.
23	MR. MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM: So, so I do
24	think at this point I might as well just read the

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2	paragraph from the finding statement, because I
3	think that would be helpful for everyone. So it
4	says, the Evergreen Manor site will require
5	approximately 0.35 acres of wetland disturbance
6	in 3.3 acres of wetland buffer modifications. It
7	includes mitigation in the form of approximately
8	0.2 acres of wetland creation slash expansion
9	along the buffer enhancement. And I think this is
10	probably the main sentence that everyone is sort
11	of it would help to clarify things the most,
12	confirmation of wetland disturbance and
13	mitigation measures will be finalized as part of
14	site plan approval but cannot be more than what
15	is presented in this finding or what is limited
16	by the agencies having jurisdiction.
17	So since I think and there are a few

other points there, but I think the most salient 18 19 point I think for tonight is since I think 20 everyone assumed originally you'd come in for 21 subdivision and site plan at the same time, I think the board at this point is going to take a 22 real close look at the wetlands, just given that 23 24 sentence and make sure it complies with the

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2	findings statement.
3	MR. STEINMETZ: I wouldn't expect
4	anything other than that.
5	MR. KESSLER: Okay. And just to for the
6	record, David, you know, when we gave our
7	comments to the town board, it wasn't really
8	about the application itself. I mean was it, you
9	know, the, what you were planning to do there in
10	terms of our comments.
11	MR. STEINMETZ: Well, it I, I don't
12	want to argue the point with you, but I'll, I'll
13	respond to it.
14	MR. KESSLER: Sure.
15	MR. STEINMETZ: You SEQR requires us
16	to present what likely is going to happen. And in
17	this case, we didn't even, it wasn't even likely
18	we were, we had plans, thoroughly analyzed, plans
19	for more development than what we're seeking
20	today. There was originally, and I, and I have to
21	respond to you, unfortunately, for the record.
22	MR. KESSLER: Sure.
23	MR. STEINMETZ: There was originally an
24	assisted living.

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MD KECCLED, Dight There was 166
MR. KESSLER: Right. There was 166
residential rentals in an apartment building,
what I would call residential flats. There was
originally a hotel that was, because of the town
board's involvement, morphed into townhouses
because they didn't want the hotel. So you did
have in front of you, whether you responded or
not is up is what you chose to do. You had a
DEIS that we studied all of those uses. We didn't
just study the MOD in some ethereal fashion, just
a zoning change. No, we studied a 28-acre site
fully baked, fully I mean traffic. Do you have
fully baked, fully I mean traffic. Do you have any idea, Mr. Chairman, how much Mr. Santucci
any idea, Mr. Chairman, how much Mr. Santucci
any idea, Mr. Chairman, how much Mr. Santucci spent paying for the town's traffic consultant
any idea, Mr. Chairman, how much Mr. Santucci spent paying for the town's traffic consultant based upon the details?
any idea, Mr. Chairman, how much Mr. Santucci spent paying for the town's traffic consultant based upon the details? So it's, it's, it's disheartening for
any idea, Mr. Chairman, how much Mr. Santucci spent paying for the town's traffic consultant based upon the details? So it's, it's, it's disheartening for me, Mr. Chairman, to hear you say you already
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any idea, Mr. Chairman, how much Mr. Santucci spent paying for the town's traffic consultant based upon the details? So it's, it's, it's disheartening for me, Mr. Chairman, to hear you say you already commented on uses because, boy, he studied the uses. MR. KESSLER: Well they were, they were

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2	as an, as an involved agency to comment on
3	anything you wish.
4	MR. KEHOE: Well, but, but I, I think
5	you're saying the exact opposite. You're saying
6	that you commented on the uses, you commented
7	more globally.
8	MR. KESSLER: Right.
9	MR. KEHOE: It wasn't more like that
10	road might impact that wetland. Now, whether they
11	should have or shouldn't have, at the time they
12	were reviewing it, it was like chess pieces on a
13	board. Well, we don't think the hotel should go
14	here or we don't think that should go here.
15	Because I think if they would've said, we don't
16	like the 0.2 acres of wetland impact, I think
17	might the response might have been, well it's
18	premature to worry about that level of detail at
19	this time. So it's sort of a circlular
20	MR. STEINMETZ: A catch 22?
21	MR. KEHOE: Yes.
22	MR. STEINMETZ: So look. We, we know we
23	need a wetland permit from this board. We know
24	that. So we're going to process the wetland

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2	permit with you once we have the site plan. My
3	our consulting team believes that we're confident
4	that we can explain why we got the, the positive
5	finding statement. But if you have questions and
6	you want to go into that, ask them. Matt
7	Steinberg will do his best to answer them. Mr.
8	Santucci can supplement that if need be.
9	There's wetlands on the property. We
10	know it. We told the town that. The town verified
11	that. We agreed to mitigate the wetland impact.
12	The town studied that, concluded we had
13	adequately mitigated that. And here we are.
14	MR. KEHOE: But I, I guess that, that

was one of the issues though, right. With this 15 16 line here, if the, if the planning board is 17 approving this plat with this line here, which, 18 which I know we could undo later I guess. But if, 19 if, if, if they analyze it and they decide that 20 it would be better from a wetland perspective if 21 it was moved, then we've gone through a 22 subdivision process that created this metes and 23 bound tail here where it could be 50 feet in one 24 direction or another. That was our only concern.

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2	MR. STEINMETZ: Okay.
3	MR. ROTHFEDER: Right. And it feels to
4	me like we're, we're sort of where we were back
5	then too because it's, it's so speculative like
6	what you're going to end up building. So how can
7	we, how can we really, really make a decision
8	about that?
9	MR. STEINMETZ: So nobody is asking you
10	to make a final decision on that between now and
11	final approval. I'm hoping that, we'll
12	MR. ROTHFEDER: But as Chris just
13	pointed out, we we're not making a final
14	decision, but we are making decisions about where
15	the road's going in regards to something that,
16	that you don't even have a proposal for.
17	MR. STEINMETZ: Okay. So I suspect what
18	Mr. Santucci is thinking and he'll tell me if I'm
19	predicting incorrectly. If you ultimately
20	conclude that you can't create the third lot
21	because you're still concerned about that, that
22	wetland area and the possibility of shifting that
23	line, then you will have the ability either when
24	you grant final approval with condition excuse

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2	me, when you grant preliminary approval with
3	conditions or when you grant final approval with
4	conditions, you can eliminate that lot and tell
5	us to come back in later. My primary goal is to,
6	to reiterate it again, is to get the assisted
7	living lot formed. And if you all decide sorry
8	Santucci, just do two lots
9	MR. ROTHFEDER: And what it feels to
10	me like we should just be focusing on that then.
11	MR. STEINMETZ: Tonight is the first
12	time, Jeff, that I'm hearing serious concern from
13	the board about the wetland issue. Had we heard
14	that a month ago, Matt and I might've said, Val,
15	let's eliminate the third lot. Forget the
16	marketing of the third lot, let's wait until we
17	satisfy the board. But nobody told us that. Your
18	consultants, so again, I don't want to, I don't
19	want I, I appreciate that you're kind of still
20	catching up on the details. Maybe we were wrong
21	in assuming that the planning board and staff
22	were kind of fully up to speed after five years.
23	And I mean, no disrespect, but I'm being honest
24	guys. This guy's been through five years and

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hundreds and hundreds of thousands of dollars of
going through a process. So the frustration's
probably evident and I will try to tamp it down.
We want to work cooperatively with the planning
board. We waited a long time to get the MOD
adopted, the findings state adopted, and to get
back to your board.

MR. ROTHFEDER: Understood. You have a right to be frustrated, but we're still where we are today.

12 MR. STEINMETZ: Agreed. So you have, so 13 look, Mr. Rothfeder, if you are concerned about 14 the third lot as seems to be others, I have a feeling Mr. Santucci is not here for the third 15 16 lot. There are reasons why we would like it. But 17 understand, we're not surrendering our 18 development rights back there. You know that. And 19 let the record reflect several heads nodding. So 20 we're not surrendering our development rights. We 21 really would like to locate our road for the 22 assisted living provider. We'd like to locate our 23 lot for the assisted living provider. And what 24 you all need to remember is we've got to go to

1	Page 28 October 3, 2023
2	the health department and that, that's one of
3	the reasons I've been, we, that Mr. Santucci has
4	been pushing. We have no idea. Westchester County
5	Health Department has been, I'll be careful
6	because maybe they watch the meeting. They've
7	been delayed in some of their reviews recently.
8	So we have a real process. I've got to get into
9	that queue.
10	MR. KESSLER: I, I think we're, I think
11	we're with you, David
12	MR. STEINMETZ: Cool.
13	MR. KESSLER: in terms of, I, we
14	understand your concern about lot one and we,
15	we'd like to expedite that as well.
16	MR. STEINMETZ: Good.
17	MR. KESSLER: Yeah. So here, here's my
18	question then. So if you were to say eliminate
19	the lot three and that road, where would you want
20	the road to be approved up to so that we can
21	dispose of lot one and get that taken care of?
22	MR. STEINMETZ: I, I would, look, Matt,
23	help me here. because I would like the road to
24	prove the way you designed it. But if, if we

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2	don't need that and I'm fighting for something we
3	don't need, I need help on that.
4	MR. KESSLER: I mean would you, would
5	you want, yeah, up to the end of, you know, the,
6	uh, the metes and bounds of lot one there? Or do
7	you want it all the way up to the cul-de-sac?
8	MR. STEINMETZ: So let, let me try this
9	on everyone, including my own team. I would
10	respectfully request that you entertain,
11	ultimately because we're not at the moment of
12	approval, it's months and months away. I would
13	ask that you ultimately approve the cul-de-sac as
14	designed with the applicant acknowledging on the
15	record that when we come back with further site
16	plans, we are coming back at our own risk that
17	you may say, why the heck did you guys put the
18	cul-de-sac there?
19	MR. KESSLER: Okay. Okay. Okay. I'm, I'm
20	good with that. I think you comfortable with
21	that?
22	MR. ROTHFEDER: Yeah.
23	MR. KESSLER: So any more questions
24	before we get to the public?

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2	MR. STEINMETZ: I think David had a
3	second one, which we
4	MR. DOUGLAS: Well my second, my second
5	one, my second one isn't really a question.
6	MR. KESSLER: Dave had the filibuster
7	duty.
8	MR. STEINMETZ: I tried so hard to make
9	him forget the second question. Thanks Chris.
10	MR. DOUGLAS: No, actually the second,
11	the second thing is not really necessarily
12	directed at you, David and I defer to Mr. Kessler
13	on this. It seems to me that since what was on
14	for a public hearing today was a six-lot
15	subdivision, at a minimum we should be keeping
16	the public hearing open so that other members of
17	the public can come in and talk about the three-
18	lot subdivision if that's what's now proposed, or
19	or a two-lot subdivision what's now proposed.
20	That's, but I'll defer, I'll defer to
21	MR. KESSLER: Okay. Well, let's see. Why
22	don't we see good segue. So, it's a public
23	hearing. Is there anybody that wishes to comment
24	on the subdivision application?

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2	MR. STEINMETZ: On the lot lines,
3	correct Mr. Chairman?
4	MR. KESSLER: On the lot lines. Well,
5	yeah, it's a subdivision of just lot lines.
6	There's no proposed development going on here.
7	MS. MIRIAM WEINBERGER: And yeah, that
8	my comments are
9	MR. KESSLER: Please come on up and
10	state your name and address for the record and
11	MS. WEINBERGER: Okay.
12	MR. KESSLER: speak your piece.
13	MS. WEINBERGER: This has been very
14	interesting so far.
15	MR. KESSLER: Please, your name and
16	address.
17	MS. WEINBERGER: I'm sorry, Miriam
18	Weinberger, 3 Birchwood Lane, which is directly
19	off of it's the first left off of Tamarack
20	Drive. I've learned a lot already in this meeting
21	regarding I had no idea that you had any input
22	into any of this before it went to the board. No
23	idea. Now it's nice to know. Okay. And thank you
24	for clarifying exactly what that input was,

Page 32 1 October 3, 2023 2 because at first it was --MR. KESSLER: So, so when an application 3 comes to us, you know, typically we are the lead 4 5 agency, meaning that we handle the whole process in terms of the review and, and the approval. On 6 7 this particular application, the town board decided to be lead agency. So they completed the 8 9 whole environmental review process, all the 10 studies, all the impacts, and they're the ones 11 that ultimately approved the application subject 12 to conditions, but also subject to the approval 13 of this board. There, as, as David said, we have 14 to give some permits for the wetlands and other 15 things. But we also have site plan approval as 16 well, as to where things may or may not go --17 MS. WEINBERGER: Right. 18 MR. KESSLER: -- on, on the, on the, uh, 19 on the site. 20 MS. WEINBERGER: Okay. So I'm going to 21 give you my prepared remarks and then I have a 22 few questions perhaps. The town board obviously 23 approved the MOD. I believe that several of those 24 town board members really struggled with their

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decision, but in the end it seemed politically expedient that there was a unanimous vote and that's what happened. That was disappointing. But here we are. You, the planning board should be aware if by some chance you aren't by now, that the long established and stable community surrounding the project remain opposed to it.

Throughout this journey of many years, as we all know, perhaps in some way to reassure us, we in the directly affected neighborhoods, so that would be off of Lafayette, Buttonwood, Tamarack, and across the street even to Conklin, et cetera. We, in the, those effective neighborhoods who were here at these meetings were frequently told by the town supervisors, the town board, the town attorneys, that plans would be subject to modifications and approval by the planning board. It was essentially, no worries, the planning board will take care of it.

21 We were told there would be public 22 hearings before the planning board. I've 23 discovered with this first public hearing, 24 apparently your requirement is only to notify

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owners of the directly adjoining properties of the plans before you. The community interest in this MOD is well known to all town officials. Yes, there is a difficult to read while driving and pedestrian risky sign posted in a high traffic area without sidewalks.

As this is clearly not a plan to build a 8 9 shed or a carport, directly notifying so few 10 residents can only be viewed as an attempt to 11 limit further input from residents. Here we are. 12 We've heard statements to the effect of, after 13 all the planning board are all volunteers and 14 that is not lost on me. However, much of the 15 enormous project with the associated huge 16 ramifications has been left for your review, 17 adjustments and approval.

I'm requesting a clear and detailed explanation of your processes and procedures moving forward with this mod, specifically now, Evergreen. What comes next? When are our opportunities to see what is coming before you for review and approval? Where and how do we find that information? How do we submit comments and

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2	concerns to you, if not by email? And how do we
3	know that you have received them?
4	And I would ask that you as individuals
5	in a voting group, realize that we as taxpayers
6	and constituents of our elected officials have
7	very real legitimate concerns. This has not only
8	been a long process, but even as this evening,
9	truly an eye-opening one for me and an emotional
10	journey. Too many of our neighbors saw the
11	writing on the wall and left. Those of us who
12	have chosen to stay, or were unaware of this
13	project when they joined our neighborhood, will
14	have our quality of life diminished by this
15	project, forever diminished by this project. And
16	with all due respect and with no offense
17	intended, I do sincerely hope that you will care
18	about our concerns and give us at least equal
19	weight in your deliberations and decisions.
20	My further questions regarding this,
21	which perhaps will be addressed, it would appear
22	that the assisted living lot is much larger than
23	the prior drawing. So perhaps if there's another

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hearing, I don't -- I confess I don't understand

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the difference between the six and the two or the three. And it would appear from what I'm hearing, that the assisted living folks want a bigger spot. What does that do to the rest of it would be my question.

7 And what, what are the ramifications for us residents and for the town? And I can, if you 8 9 point me in the right direction, what are the 10 benefits or the detriments and when do you, vote 11 on this? When do you vote on this subdivision as 12 stated, or the three? And because we do, our 13 neighbors speak with us, they know we show up. 14 That would be helpful and thank you for your 15 time.

16MR. KESSLER: Chris, you want to just17talk about the process a little bit?

MR. KEHOE: Well --

MR. KESSLER: In terms of notificationand things of that sort?

21 MR. KEHOE: Well, I, I, you know, I 22 don't think the notification is going to be 23 satisfactory. I mean, I notify who the code tells 24 me to notify, which is all adjacent and

1	Page 37 October 3, 2023
2	immediately across the street property owners and
3	then we post the orange sign. That's different
4	than what the town board did. The town board sent
5	out hundreds of notices, you know.
6	MS. WEINBERGER: To their credit.
7	MR. KEHOE: Right. But I, I, you know,
8	if the planning board wants me to send out
9	hundreds of notices, I will. But until so
10	directed I do what the code tells me to do.
11	MS. WEINBERGER: May I, may I respond?
12	You know, when you send
13	MR. KESSLER: Can you come back to the,
14	can you come back to the microphone?
15	MR. KEHOE: Yeah. If you don't speak
16	into the mic, they can't pick you up.
17	MS. WEINBERGER: I'm sorry. When you
18	send them to the properties across the street,
19	say on Tamarack, there are quite a few houses,
20	their address is not Tamarack, even though that
21	property is on Tamarack. Because of where their
22	front door is, it's Birchwood Lane, because of
23	where their front door is. it's, I forget the
24	name of the streets, Magnolia or, or whatever.

Page 38 1 October 3, 2023 There's a bunch of those properties. And we are 2 like a hundred, couple hundred feet from those 3 people. So to say that those direct properties, 4 5 I'm just going to speak to Tamarack, it's not that many houses. And to say that they're not 6 7 affected by this, maybe the town board chose to do that. They did something right, otherwise they 8 9 kicked it all down the road to you. But clearly -10 11 MR. KEHOE: Well, so, so that's 12 something that the planning board can take under 13 advisement, but --14 MS. WEINBERGER: Yes, Exactly. MR. KEHOE: 15 Right. 16 MS. WEINBERGER: And if your procedures, 17 if, if this is something that I should make an 18 appointment with you for so that we under-, so 19 that I know what's going, I'm happy to do that 20 rather than take time here. 21 MR. KEHOE: Well, well, no, there's not 22 too much time. But that, but what, what they're 23 talking about now is the underlying subdivision, 24 whether it's two lots, three lots or six lots. So

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2	we talked briefly before the meeting
3	MS. WEINBERGER: Right.
4	MR. KEHOE: the implication of simply
5	creating the big lots where future things are
6	going to happen. So that's the subdivision. At
7	some point, the applicant will make a new
8	application and yet another orange sign will go
9	out there for the assisted living facility. That
10	would be a site plan application. There'll be
11	drawings specific to that. They'll be showing
12	landscaping. They'll show renderings of the
13	building. They'll show all the parking lot.
14	MS. WEINBERGER: Just as they did with -
15	- before?
16	MR. KEHOE: In, in more detail than
17	probably what they did with the town board. But
18	yes. And then the planning board will review
19	that.
20	MS. WEINBERGER: Okay.
21	MR. KEHOE: In one month, six months,
22	nine months, however long it takes.
23	MS. WEINBERGER: Got it.
24	MR. KEHOE: There'll be a public hearing

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2	on that. Then, ultimately they'll close the
3	public hearing and make a decision. The
4	townhouses would be on another parcel. And
5	MS. WEINBERGER: So that's another
6	process and decision and
7	MR. KEHOE: Right. They now, in theory,
8	they could submit those, I guess at the same
9	time, I don't think they will. But there'll be an
10	application for it,
11	MS. WEINBERGER: Got it.
12	MR. KEHOE: So what the, the
13	important thing to know now is the planning board
14	is not approving any construction on this site.
15	MS. WEINBERGER: That I understand.
16	MR. KEHOE: If they approve the
17	subdivision.
18	MS. WEINBERGER: That I understand.
19	MR. KEHOE: But then the other thing
20	that you touched upon, which is always the
21	elephant in the room, is that the town board did
22	a lot of work on this.
23	MS. WEINBERGER: I know.
24	MR. KEHOE: And I was at those meetings,

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2	but the planning board is somewhat limited in
3	what the planning board can do.
4	MS. WEINBERGER: Because of what the
5	town board did.
6	MR. KEHOE: The town board has approved,
7	They've created MOD and they've approved the
8	project, subject to site plan approval. Now, the
9	one thing that you've, I think mentioned, that
10	was made quite clear is that the 99 townhouses is
11	the top end number.
12	MR. KESSLER: It's an upper limit.
13	MR. KEHOE: Upper limit. That was made
14	clear numerous times. And then the other things,
15	but to be honest, the assisted living, once you
16	see the layout, you know, you can tweak the
17	layout. But, but we're past
18	MS. WEINBERGER: That I know.
19	MR. KEHOE: if we're doing to deny
20	the assisted living, you know.
21	MS. WEINBERGER: No, I, that I
22	MR. KEHOE: Right.
23	MS. WEINBERGER: I know all of that.
24	MR. KESSLER: Yeah. We'll with parking,

1	Page 42 October 3, 2023
2	we'll deal with landscaping, we'll deal with
3	lighting and those kinds of issues.
4	MS. WEINBERGER: It's that I, that
5	part I understand and I'm not here to argue about
6	anything. You know, any of the buildings the town
7	board did, maybe with all due respect their due
8	diligence, so far as some other things. They did
9	finally, after a lot of requests, did expand the
10	list of who you notify after there was, I don't
11	know what year that was, what meeting that was,
12	whatever. And they did. The project was scaled
13	down. The hotel, thank God, was gone, et cetera,
14	et cetera. Okay.
15	MR. KEHOE: Right. So the plan
16	MS. WEINBERGER: I'm not looking to
17	redo this
18	MR. KESSLER: No.
19	MR. KEHOE: and the planning board
20	does have experience, similar to your like if
21	I'm only notifying on the west side of Tamarack
22	and not notifying on the east side of Tamarack as
23	an example, the planning board in the past has
24	said you might as well notify everyone on

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2	Tamarack.
3	MS. WEINBERGER: Okay.
4	MR. KEHOE: So we can
5	MS. WEINBERGER: That would be
6	wonderful.
7	MR. KESSLER: We can.
8	MS. WEINBERGER: And, and the adjoining
9	streets, we're a little dead end place.
10	MR. KESSLER: We, we will put that in
11	under consideration.
12	MS. WEINBERGER: Okay. Thank you. Okay.
13	Is that it, Chris? For now?
14	MR. KEHOE: Yes.
15	MR. KESSLER: Anybody else wish to
16	comment? Yes, sir.
17	MR. DAVID WEINBERGER: David Weinberger,
18	3 Birchwood Lane. I'd like to start this evening
19	by thanking you, the planning board, for the
20	opportunity to present my thoughts and make known
21	some of my concerns about the project. Actually,
22	I should extend my appreciation to Chris and to
23	Supervisor Becker as well. After the July 25
24	meeting, Chris and I had a brief conversation

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2	afterwards, at which point he made clear that
3	you, the planning board will not readdress that
4	which has been settled by the town board. That
5	makes sense.
6	To cover the same ground is not a good
7	use of time and attention for the planning board,
8	the planning department, the developers or
9	residents of our community. Repetition of settled
10	decisions will not produce any meaningful or
11	perhaps any differences in the project.
12	As residents, we recognize the
13	components, the maximums and the minimums
14	represented by the town board approval. There
15	will be assisted living, not to exceed 120 units,
16	if I've got my numbers right, a maximum of 99
17	townhomes, retail space not to exceed 10,000
18	square feet, a height limit of two and a half
19	stories, or 35 feet for the townhomes and a
20	minimum setback of retained, undisturbed wooded
21	areas for distance of a hundred feet for
22	residents of Cyprus, Nancy Ridge and Tamarack.
23	Fine.

Rather, and here is my thanks to

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Superintendent Becker, for his explicit and 2 repeated identification of continuity between the 3 town board and the planning board attention to 4 5 MOD issues. And it came up again, thank you, Chris, in the work session beforehand, on the 6 7 handoff from the town board to the planning board. He repeatedly assured the community that 8 9 the planning board would have significant impact, 10 his words, on decisions as the process goes 11 forward. There are a variety of time code 12 identifications I could give you in the videos as 13 to where he made those statements. That's not for 14 tonight.

15 His assurances were in response to a --16 specifically in response to a range of comments 17 and concerns that include, but were not limited 18 to, green space, the loss of it and how much will 19 remain, adverse effects of development, in 20 particular this development, light, noise and air 21 pollution, water runoff, wetlands and related 22 issues, ensuring that the development is 23 sensible, density of the project, impact of that 24 density on the character of the adjacent

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2	community and on the residents in those adjacent
3	communities, impact of that density on traffic,
4	climate issues such as anticipating and meeting
5	the Climate Leadership and Community Protection
6	Act targets for the reduction of fossil fuel use
7	and electrification, LEAD certification,
8	pedestrian safety and specifics such as building
9	elevations, specifically the differential impact
10	on neighborhood residents, such as along
11	Tamarack, as the land contours of the adjacent
12	properties along Tamarack change with respect to
13	the land contours of the Evergreen housing
14	project elevations.
15	So the sample that was shown in the one

15 So the sample that was shown in the one of the meetings showed it essentially at the high 16 17 point of Tamarack. And when I talked to the 18 supervisor, I think it was electronic 19 communication, about the change, if you go to 20 different parts of Tamarack and how that 21 beautifully identified example that we saw 22 graphically at the meet at the town board 23 meetings, that it was dramatically different at 24 different places on Tamarack. There too was

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2	assurance of that, yes, you that's an
3	appropriate question. You will get answers and
4	the residents of Tamarack will get those answers,
5	but that will come later.
6	So it was a variety of things that came
7	up at the town meetings and in email and other
8	communication. If it seems that my list is rather
9	extensive, it is. This has been a long process by
10	necessity and appropriately so for a project of
11	this size, scope, duration and impact. There has
12	been extensive and longstanding community
13	reaction with concerns that remain even after all
14	of the town board attention. That would appear to
15	be the basis of the clarification by
16	Superintendent Becker as well as town board
17	members, town attorney, Chris tonight, and at
18	other times, made to the community that you, the
19	planning board would be taking up these issues
20	when handed off from the town board. As I said at
21	the outside, thank you and welcome to the
22	discussion.
23	MR. KESSLER: Thank you.
24	MR. WEINBERGER: I did reference

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efficiency and repetition, a rather obvious way 2 to increase the former and decrease the latter 3 rest in the public meeting and document record of 4 5 the town board. If you have not already done so, I urge you to listen to community questions, 6 7 comments, concerns, and issues while viewing the public hearing videos. Read the documents and the 8 comments submitted. 9

I'm going to venture a guess that we may soon hear that such an action is not your procedure, it's not required, it's not done, not surprising, but I refer you to the size, scope, project duration, review duration, size, and duration of the impact on the community and the remaining widespread community dissatisfaction with the Evergreen housing project.

We will all come out ahead if you take the shortcut of listening to the MOD public hearing videos and read or reread the submissions.

There is a parallel cache of unresolved issues as part of the transition from town to planning board. Despite repeated assurances that

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all questions would be answered in the town board process, at least 120 of the 691 responses in second section three of the FEIS received a sole answer of, quote, comment noted, end quote. There were dozens, if not hundreds of more low quality, barely relevant or not relevant boilerplate responses that do not constitute an answer to the questions posed there. These also do not rise to the level of an answer in any literate universe.

These two are the issues that remain unresolved and will continue to emerge. Better just to deal with it directly and transparently. Neither the questions nor the community are going away.

16 Finally, there's another important 17 concern about the planning board process for me 18 and others who are ramping up our familiarity 19 with how this is going to work and how the 20 process will affect the outcomes. Starting at the 21 July 25th '23 meeting and continuing tonight, 22 there's a clear structure to limit what will be 23 included or excluded on the agenda and at the 24 meeting, namely the six lot, now three lot,

1	Page 50 October 3, 2023
2	possibly two lot subdivision.
3	At least in July, the presentation of
4	the master plan and project history were
5	expressly excluded. Please make no mistake. I
6	state this not as a complaint, but simply as an
7	observation. If representative, this process is a
8	compartmentalized approach to a large complicated
9	process project with an extended
10	implementation timeline. Such an approach may be
11	necessary and in many ways beneficial. I will add
12	the caution that I expect you are well aware that
13	compartmentalizing the project components can
14	obscure the overall consequences and sometimes
15	contribute to unintended consequences.
16	Your conversation and the comments about
17	preliminary approval, coming back to make final
18	approval, recognition, recognition in any
19	decision tonight or upcoming, that things may
20	change seems to be a recognition again of those
21	consequences, unintended and otherwise.
22	A decision on project component A, such

as dividing the project into a sub, any number of subdivisions, can be consequential for project

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2	component B, C, D, or Z that you will address and
3	decide on in the future. Clearly, you know this.
4	We as residents ask for balance between
5	necessary and appropriate compartmentalized
б	decisions and the overall impact of the project
7	on residents, the community, on traffic, on the
8	environment, on nature, and on our neighborhoods.
9	We ask your assistance and assurance
10	that we will not lose sight of the forest while
11	considering the necessary details of the trees.
12	Both are important. We ask for your attention to
13	both the forest and to the trees. Thank you.
14	MR. KESSLER: Anybody else in the
15	audience wish to comment? David, you have any
16	responses to anything that you wish to say?
17	MR. STEINMETZ: Anyone else? Is that it?
18	MR. KESSLER: Yeah, I don't see anybody
19	else. Again, this is just, you know, the
20	subdivision and not
21	MR. STEINMETZ: Right.
22	MR. KESSLER: not an application.
23	MR. STEINMETZ: So, appreciate the fact
24	that the Weinbergers spoke and, and pleased that

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2	after three months before your board in the
3	follow up to the town board four and a half year
4	process, those are the only speakers here tonight
5	at the subdivision hearing.
6	The comments were beyond the
7	subdivision, but I'm going to respond very
8	briefly. Chris already said it. We, the notice, I
9	just as the board knows, the notice was handled
10	by the town in, in accordance with the with the
11	town law. The assisted living lot, Mrs.
12	Weinberger is actually correct. There is a slight
13	change in the assisted living lot. It's actually
14	a little bit larger. And I want the board to be
15	aware of this. At the final moment of the, prior
16	to the adoption of the MOD, the town board as
17	lead agency, at the urging, at the urging of the
18	Tamarack neighbors imposed a 100-foot buffer.
19	There had been discussions throughout the process
20	about a 50 foot, 75 foot. And supervisor Becker
21	in his wisdom, as was indicated, ultimately
22	imposed, and the town board imposed a 100-foot
23	buffer.
24	As a result of that 100-foot buffer, the

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2	only way to fit the assisted living building and
3	the parking and the landscaping that we suspect
4	you will require and to still potentially yield
5	the 120 units was to make the lot, I don't know,
б	0.2, it's effectively the it, there was a
7	minuscule change, but there was a slight change.
8	The lot itself is effectively the same
9	as it has always been depicted. But if, if you
10	compare the, the lot originally it was it's
11	now 6.03. It might have been 5.8 or 5.9.
12	MS. WEINBERGER: Thank you for that. I
13	thought it was way bigger in looking at it.
14	MR. STEINMETZ: So it no problem, no
15	problem. We shouldn't, but, but I, I appreciate
16	the comment and I wanted you to you, you, you
17	were right and I, and I wanted the record to be
18	clear.
19	Compartmentalizing, I'm not exactly sure
20	what Mr. Weinberger was referring to, but what we
21	are doing right now is precisely what New York
22	State law allows us to do. This is not an issue
23	of segmentation. All of that has been reviewed as
24	part of the SEQR process.

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2	So in any event, I, I want to conclude
3	because I don't want to waste your time. We look
4	forward to coming back and answering any
5	questions you've got. If you've got more
6	questions and you want to talk about road or
7	wetlands tonight, Matt's here. We would very much
8	like the public hearing to be closed for one very
9	simple reason, it was properly noticed. There is
10	one family here after four and a half, five, six
11	years. We'd like the public hearing to be closed.
12	We're happy to continue the discussion with your
13	board and move on.
14	UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [unintelligible]
15	[00:52:47] one family.
16	UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: [unintelligible]
17	[00:52:50]. Yeah. Thank you. Thank you.
18	MR. STEINMETZ: We'd like the public
19	hearing to be closed. If not, we will return next
20	month and continue the discussion with your board
21	and we look forward to processing the subdivision
22	and ultimately coming back at the earliest
23	possible date with the site plan.
24	MR. KESSLER: Thank you. Yeah, Chris, go

1

2

24

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ahead.

MR. KEHOE: Well, it was six lots and 3 then, you know, based on comments, it's now three 4 5 lots. I just want to be clear, do you want it to be two lots next time? I mean, you've got to 6 7 decide that, but, you know, before we end. MR. KESSLER: That's exactly what I was 8 9 going to ask Mr. Steinmetz. You know, are you 10 going to come back? Or do you want this to be 11 what we're considering? Or do you want to come 12 back with a two-lot proposal with your cul-de-sac 13 with everything else part of a different lot? So 14 it would be lot one for your assisted living, lot 15 two, which is everything else and what you're 16 calling a right of way parcel with your cul-de-17 sac, as you proposed it here with what you've 18 stated, what we all understand to be the 19 possibility that it may change once we get a full 20 blown application with exactly what you want to 21 do on the entire property beyond the assisted 22 living? 23 MR. STEINMETZ: So if the board is going

MR. STEINMETZ: So if the board is going to adjourn, which it, which my sense is your

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2	inclination is to do so, then we'll make that
3	decision and we'll in sufficient time within
4	your submission requirements, we'll submit
5	something if Mr. Santucci and Mandy Santucci
6	decide to do so.
7	So I, I'd rather not make that decision
8	on the fly this evening right here. We hear you
9	loud and clear. You've heard me already say what
10	we were trying to do in, in holding onto the
11	third lot, and you, you've made your points this
12	evening. I've heard them. I want to, I want to
13	allow the Santuccis to process that.
14	MR. KESSLER: Yeah, I, I just think it'd
15	be helpful if, if, if we do come to some
16	agreement, that at least at the next meeting
17	where we, when we continue the public hearing, we
18	discuss what we're actually going to approve
19	rather than making a resolution that makes all
20	sorts of modifications to
21	MR. STEINMETZ: That's fine. And, and I
22	would like you to do that because I know you'll
23	be more comfortable, but I'm just going to remind
24	you, and I would ask you either with me here or

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2	privately or whenever to confer with your
3	counsel. New York State Law, Mr. Chairman, allows
4	you to do exactly what you just talked about. You
5	don't, you don't need my client to consent to
6	three lots. You could say, I'm going to grant
7	preliminary approval, but it's going to be two
8	lots. You're going to eliminate that third lot.
9	MR. KESSLER: Okay, but ultimately
10	MR. STEINMETZ: And that would be a
11	condition.
12	MR. KESSLER: you're going to have to
13	come with a plan for them to review. So do it now
14	or do it later. I mean, what's that's
15	MR. KEHOE: Well, I, I guess one of the
16	things though, it, it's pretty clear right, that
17	you don't like lot three at this time is shown on
18	the plan.
19	MR. ROTHFEDER: Right.
20	MR. KEHOE: Maybe, right. So if that's,
21	if that's the case maybe, then he doesn't have to
22	agree to it now but you could say you'd really
23	like to see a two lot plan next time.
24	MR. STEINMETZ: And if you give us a

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2	couple of days, unless Mr. Santucci, you want to
3	be put on the spot right now and make that
4	decision, and you don't look like you do. So Mr.
5	Chairman, I respectfully request and I'm, I'm,
6	I'm dead serious. We heard your request. Don't
7	force the decision right here, right now on the
8	record.
9	MR. ROTHFEDER: Yeah.
10	MR. KESSLER: Okay.
11	MR. ROTHFEDER: Because we can adjourn.
12	MR. KESSLER: Yeah, we, we, we will
13	adjourn and you'll talk with staff and see.
14	MR. STEINMETZ: Perfect. We'll, we'll
15	make the submission and
16	MR. KEHOE: That's fine.
17	MR. KESSLER: Alright. I appreciate
18	that.
19	MR. STEINMETZ: And most likely you'll
20	see two lots.
21	MR. KESSLER: Okay. I appreciate that.
22	Thank you. So any more comments from the board or
23	staff? Last call for the public. Again, the
24	public hearing's going to be adjourned, so you'll

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2	
	have an opportunity next time to come again and -
3	
4	MR. WEINBERGER: Thank you. We will.
5	MR. KESSLER: Okay. We, we like to have
6	company. So with that, Mr. McKinley?
7	MR. MCKINLEY: I'd like to make a motion
8	to adjourn the public meeting and refer back to
9	staff for further instruction.
10	MR. KESSLER: Second please.
11	MR. KOBASA: Second.
12	MR. KESSLER: And on the question, all
13	in favor?
14	MULTIPLE: Aye.
15	MR. KESSLER: Opposed? Thank you.
16	MR. STEINMETZ: Thank you all. We'll see
17	you next month.
18	MR. KESSLER: All right. Thank you.
19	Alright. Our next item is an adjourned public
20	hearing. It is the application of NK Electric for
21	site development plan approval and a special
22	permit for a specialty trade electrical
23	contractor located in an existing building at 465
24	Yorktown Road, Route 129, latest drawings

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2	September 26, 2023. Good evening.
3	MR. JIM ANNICCHIARICO: Good evening.
4	Jim Annicchiarico with Cronin Engineering. So we
5	received a draft resolution from staff.
6	MR. KESSLER: Well, first we have to
7	have the public hearing.
8	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: Sure, sure, sure,
9	sure.
10	MR. KESSLER: Any, anything, anything
11	that we need to say about this?
12	MR. KEHOE: Well, no, the, the, the hang
13	up as you recall last time, was the issue with
14	the DEP and the applicant got concurrence from
15	the DEP that the drawing as revised was fine.
16	That was the only outstanding issue why we kept
17	the hearing open.
18	MR. KESSLER: Okay. So this is a public
19	hearing. Is there anybody that wishes to comment
20	on this application? Oh, come on. Any, any
21	comments from the board? If, if not, uh, Mr.
22	Rothfeder?
23	MR. ROTHFEDER: Mr. Chair, I, I move
24	that we approve Resolution

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2	MR. KESSLER: Well, by the way, we've
3	got to close the public hearing.
4	MR. ROTHFEDER: Oh, I'm sorry. I move
5	first that we close the public hearing and, and
6	we approve resolution 13-23.
7	MR. KESSLER: Second please.
8	MS. HILDINGER: Second.
9	MR. KESSLER: On the question. All in
10	favor?
11	MULTIPLE: Aye.
12	MR. KESSLER: Opposed? Alright, good
13	luck.
14	MR. KEHOE: It'll be nice, nice to see
15	that building in use.
16	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: Yes. Thank you very
17	much.
18	MR. KESSLER: Alright, onto old
19	business, it's the application of Jennie Thomas
20	of JJM Summit Realty for amended site plan
21	approval for a proposed 964-square foot building
22	addition to an existing dental office located at
23	1 Jerome Drive, Drawings dated July 28, 2023. Mr.
24	Lentini, good evening.

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2	MR. JOHN LENTINI: Good evening.
3	MR. KESSLER: So we've, we've heard, I
4	know you've met with the architectural review
5	committee and they have no issues.
6	MR. LENTINI: Well, actually we
7	communicated, but they were, were unable to meet
8	and I believe we resolved the issue.
9	MR. KESSLER: Yes, I we, we got, we
10	received a memo from them dated September 27th,
11	where they recommend the approval of the project
12	that's proposed.
13	MR. LENTINI: And I'm here wishing that
14	you would also and refer me back to the zoning
15	board, because I believe we still have to, with
16	your blessings, and I believe I have to still
17	come back here another time.
18	MR. KEHOE: Well, let me just ask our
19	attorney, the zoning board has already held the
20	hearing and intimated that they have no problem
21	granting the variance. But the planning board was
22	sort of, not, sort of the planning board was
23	lead agent. So does Mr. Lentini need to wait
24	until the planning board approves this in

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2	November and then go to the November zoning board
3	meeting? Or can he go to the October zoning board
4	meeting?
5	MR. CUNNINGHAM: Is this a did we
6	determines this is a type two action under SEQR.
7	MR. KEHOE: I'd consider it unlisted.
8	MR. CUNNINGHAM: If it's unlisted, then
9	the town
10	MR. KEHOE: I think he's got to wait
11	till November.
12	MR. CUNNINGHAM: Then if the town board
13	is the lead agency then the town board going to
14	have to issue some sort of negative
15	MR. KESSLER: Even if we authorize
16	approval of the resolution this evening?
17	MR. KEHOE: Well, that's sort of what I
18	was getting at. If they authorize an approving
19	resolution for November, but that you're not
20	technically completing SEQR until you adopt
21	MR. CUNNINGHAM: [unintelligible]
22	[01:00:08] is actually completing SEQR rather
23	than
24	MR. KEHOE: That's what I explained to

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2	Mr. Lentini. I just, it be, you come back here in
3	November, Mr. Lentini, then you go to the
4	November zoning board meeting and then you would
5	be done.
6	MR. LENTINI: Okay.
7	MR. KESSLER: Alright. So, Mr. Douglas?
8	MR. DOUGLAS: Okay. I'm not, I'm not
9	sure I was total clear on the procedure there.
10	MR. KEHOE: Well, just
11	MR. DOUGLAS: Should we be, are we
12	directing you to prepare a resolution of
13	approval?
14	MR. KEHOE: Yes.
15	MR. DOUGLAS: For, for the next meeting?
16	MR. KEHOE: Yes.
17	MR. KESSLER: That's it.
18	MR. DOUGLAS: Okay.
19	MR. KESSLER: That's, that's, the
20	motion.
21	MR. DOUGLAS: That's my motion.
22	MR. KESSLER: That's a good motion.
23	MR. DOUGLAS: Right.
24	MR. KESSLER: Second please.

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2	MR. ROTHFEDER: Second.
3	MR. KESSLER: On the question. All in
4	favor?
5	MULTIPLE: Aye.
6	MR. KESSLER: Opposed? Alright.
7	MR. LENTINI: Okay. Thank you very much.
8	MR. KESSLER: Thank you. All right,
9	final item this evening under old business is the
10	application of Heike Schneider on behalf of 3120
11	Lexington, LLC for amended site plan approval and
12	a wetland permit for a proposed 2,700-square foot
13	building addition to the existing ACE Hardware
14	store and for an approximately 800 square foot
15	temporary fabric building located at 3120
16	Lexington Avenue, drawings a revised September
17	27th and 28, 2023. Ms. Schneider, good to see you
18	again.
19	MS. HEIKE SCHNEIDER: Good evening, yes.
20	Now, all of a sudden, it's going really fast.
21	MR. KEHOE: Yes. Oh you got to use the
22	mic. He's yelling at you from behind.
23	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yes, I will. My name is
24	Heike Schneider and I'm the architect for 3120

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2	Lexington Avenue, the Ace Hardware store.
3	MR. KEHOE: Can, can we go backwards for
4	a second? Maybe to take care of the tent, the
5	temporary structure, I think Martin Rogers had
6	reached out to you that you needed to provide him
7	a zoning table for him to review because he
8	thinks that needs a variance. Have you had that
9	discussion yet?
10	MS. SCHNEIDER: I saw his comment and I
11	actually put it on the latest plans. I don't know
12	if you have it on your plan set, but the tent,
13	the only place we can put it means it's going to
14	be five foot one inches from the property line.
15	So yes, we will need a variance.
16	MR. KEHOE: Right. So I think you had
17	mostly satisfied Mr. Rogers with all the building
18	code issues
19	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yes.
20	MR. KEHOE: with the underlying
21	easement. Everything was good and then at the
22	last minute
23	MS. SCHNEIDER: I know.
24	MR. KEHOE: it was decided that you

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2	might need to go to the zoning board.
3	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yes.
4	MR. KEHOE: So I would think that I
5	mean, it'd be up to the planning board, but they
6	can't decide on the tent tonight. But you can at
7	least give some comments, I guess. But whatever
8	you say, you should go to the zoning board.
9	MS. SCHNEIDER: So, but the way I
10	understand it, why can't the couldn't the
11	planning board approve our application and then
12	we move to the zoning board? How or how does it -
13	- that's how I thought the process is.
14	MR. KESSLER: And so, to be clear, the
15	tent is going to only exist until such time as
16	the other structure is built?
17	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yes. I mean, I would
18	like to have an overlap, so basically built and
19	usable, that's, yeah, yeah, mm-hmm.
20	MR. KESSLER: I don't know if that's a
21	CO or what would that be?
22	MS. SCHNEIDER: The CO I would think,
23	yes.
24	MR. KESSLER: So once the CO is issued,

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2	the tent comes down?
3	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yes, we are definitely,
4	I mean, I'm sure my client would like to keep the
5	tent as long as it's standing, but I would say
6	that's definitely something we could agree on.
7	MR. KEHOE: No, that would be a
8	condition.
9	MR. KESSLER: Yes.
10	MS. SCHENIDER: Yes.
11	MR. KEHOE: Yes. I mean, if, if you're
12	treating it as a temporary structure, you would
13	condition when it needed to come down.
14	MR. KESSLER: Okay.
15	MR. KEHOE: But I guess for coordinated
16	review purposes, Mike, what, what's your opinion?
17	MR. CUNNINGHAM: I, I think generally
18	speaking, it would probably advantageous for you
19	to go to the zoning board sooner rather than
20	later. If this is part of one SEQR action,
21	they're going to be an involved agency because
22	they're going to have to issue a variance. So I
23	think you would make an application there sooner
24	rather than later.

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2	MS. SCHNEIDER: Right. But, so then
3	could we get the approval already of the planning
4	board? For, for
5	
	MR. CUNNINGHAM: You could, yeah. You
6	get
7	MS. SCHNEIDER: Okay.
8	MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yeah, you could get it
9	subject to the zoning board granting a variance.
10	MS. SCHNEIDER: Okay, sure, mm-hmm.
11	MR. KEHOE: That's okay with I, I
12	didn't really have too many issues with it.
13	Martin Rogers had a lot, but you straightened
14	Martin out.
15	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yes, yes.
16	MR. KEHOE: Or he straightened you out?
17	I don't know.
18	MR. KESSLER: So as far as
19	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yeah, I guess.
20	MR. KESSLER: the tent goes, so we
21	can direct staff to write the ZBA to that we
22	have no issue with the tent for them to then
23	proceed with their variance?
24	MR. CUNNINGHAM: Right. So that could be

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2	noted in the record. Chris can issue some sort of
3	memorandum and then
4	MR. KEHOE: Well
5	MR. KESSLER: We'll make motion
6	MR. CUNNINGHAM: and then you could,
7	you would also get a denial letter from Martin.
8	MR. KEHOE: Yeah. But, but hang on.
9	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yes.
10	MR. KEHOE: Hang on, hang on.
11	MR. KESSLER: Okay.
12	MR. KEHOE: The zoning board meeting is
13	too soon. You can't meet the public notification
14	requirements. I think the zoning board meeting's
15	October 19th.
16	MS. SCHNEIDER: Oh, Okay.
17	MR. KEHOE: And you've, you've got to
18	have the sign up 20 days beforehand and it's
19	already 16 days beforehand, so you can't get to
20	the zoning board meeting in October anyway, so
21	that's sort of moot.
22	MS. SCHNEIDER: Okay. So, then November?
23	MR. KEHOE: Yes.
24	MS. SCHNEIDER: Is it.

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2	
	MR. KEHOE: They can still do what you
3	want them to do, but it doesn't help you getting
4	to the October zoning board meeting.
5	MS. SCHNEIDER: Right. Yeah, yeah.
6	MR. KEHOE: So , sorry, that was just
7	having to do with the tent.
8	MS. SCHNEIDER: Sure, yeah. No, no,
9	absolutely, yes.
10	MR. KESSLER: Okay. So let's move on to
11	the proposed structure.
12	MS. SCHNEIDER: Okay.
13	MR. KESSLER: Well take, you can take
14	the microphone with you if, if you want to take,
15	pull the microphone out.
16	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yeah, I guess I could do
17	that, yes, mm-hmm. So would you like me to yeah,
18	you know what, let me just introduce the new
19	revised footprint here. So I'm just going to
20	read, I think what I wrote you kind of just to
21	reiterate and maybe fill in with some extra
22	comments.
23	So based on the last planning board
24	meeting on September 5th, we have revised the

1	Page 72 October 3, 2023
2	site plan and the architectural plan application.
3	The members of the planning board had asked for a
4	smaller footprint and to possibly go higher to
5	get the same storage space. Therefore, so now we
б	are proposing a building that is
7	MR. KEHOE: You've got to keep the mic
8	close to your mouth or he is going to yell again.
9	Sorry.
10	MS. SCHNEIDER: Sorry. So now we're
11	proposing a building that is 25 foot deep and 90
12	feet long and is the highest part of it will be,
13	I believe, 22 feet, but I need to check my plans
14	here. So, we came up with that dimension in using
15	the, basically the, the reach of a forklift and
16	also the turning radius of a forklift so that we
17	would have really just kind of the minimum space
18	to have storage on both sides and to still be
19	able to turn the forklift and have a most
20	economical way of storing, you know, all the, the
21	extra equipment and storage for, for that area.
22	So what I would like to emphasize here
23	is that now that we moved it forward, we can
24	completely avoid the wetlands and that's really

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2	what I think is the biggest achievement. And, so
3	yeah, so the, let's see, what else.
4	So yeah, so we are hoping that with
5	having moved it forward and being completely out
б	of the wetlands, that we now have basically an
7	ideal solution and that you agree with me and
8	that we could move forward.
9	So there is also one more comment that I
10	would like to make, and that is because it's
11	really just a storage addition, we don't need
12	extra parking because we will not need additional
13	employees or, you know, staff for the Ace
14	Hardware store and therefore it's really just
15	this footprint that we're looking at. And we were
16	also thinking we could put it on piers, the
17	building, meaning this way basically we are
18	minimizing the footprint even more. So that's
19	MR. KEHOE: Well, that, that's subject
20	to review and confirmation with Martin.
21	MS. SCHNEIDER: Of course. And also,
22	yeah, and also
23	MR. KEHOE: Well be, because if you're
24	going to go to the zoning board, I, I'd have to

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2	confirm, I know with like restaurants, we don't
3	count dead space. We don't count coolers or
4	spaces behind counters. There's a formula about
5	how we determine how many parking spaces you
6	need.
7	MS. SCHNEIDER: Oh, I already talked to
8	Martin about that.
9	MR. KEHOE: So he's saying that, that
10	MS. SCHNEIDER: So he, he agreed. Yeah.
11	MR. KEHOE: So that's fine.
12	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yeah.
13	MR. KEHOE: Okay.
14	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yeah. So I already did,
15	yeah.
16	MR. KEHOE: Okay.
17	MS. SCHNEIDER: Mm-hmm. Thanks for
18	bringing it up. So, and also we would like to
19	propose a green roof for that addition. And I
20	think that, you know, would be very advantageous
21	for the wetlands because we have less water
22	runoff so
23	MR. KEHOE: Meaning a grass roof more or
24	less for lack

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2	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yeah. I mean, only
3	extensive, not intensive, meaning it's sedum,
4	it's basically it low maintenance, a low
5	maintenance.
6	MR. KEHOE: It would, we would soak up
7	the water and stop it from just going into a
8	downspout?
9	MS. SCHNEIDER: Exactly. It would, yes,
10	it reduce, yeah, and also clean it.
11	MR. KEHOE: Okay.
12	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yeah. So do you have any
13	questions for me?
14	MR. KEHOE: Well, the biggest question
15	is did you get the email? I, I sent you the email
16	from the DEC. Now the DEC saw your original plan
17	and she didn't like it.
18	MS. SCHNEIDER: I, I know that, yes.
19	MR. KEHOE: Right. So what we're going
20	to need to do, and then we have to get Paul
21	Jaehnig out there. And I've contacted him, but he
22	hasn't contacted me back yet.
23	MS. SCHNEIDER: Right.
24	MR. KEHOE: But what I would prefer to

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2	do is that typically we're the agency referring
3	this to the DEC and then they're interacting with
4	us. And I know that you got ahead of the game and
5	you sent it directly to them, but as you could
6	see, some of her questions back were, you know,
7	is the town aware of what's going on with.
8	MS. SCHNEIDER: Right.
9	MR. KEHOE: So I'd like to sort of take
10	over responding back to her. I'll keep you
11	informed and I'll send the new plans.
12	MS. SCHNEIDER: Sure.
13	MR. KEHOE: And the revised plans to
14	her.
15	MS. SCHNEIDER: I would like that. Thank
16	you, mm-hmm, sure.
17	MR. KESSLER: Are, are there any
18	questions? As Chris said, so we'll probably
19	declare ourselves lead agency and we'll refer
20	this back to staff.
21	MR. KEHOE: Yes, because that was
22	another one of her comments. She needs she
23	wanted to know if they declared their intent to
24	be lead agent because she wants to be involved in

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2	the SECR process.
3	MS. SCHNEIDER: Right. Right.
4	MR. KESSLER: So we'll Refer this back
5	to review with the staff and we'll also get that,
6	uh, memo over to ZBA.
7	MR. KEHOE: Okay. So I'm sorry?
8	MS. SCHNEIDER: Just for me to, to
9	understand what the, the order of things is. So
10	when, so once the DEC sees the revised
11	revision, I mean the revision and they approve of
12	it or would like to move forward, so does that
13	mean we can then get your approval for it and
14	MR. KEHOE: Well
15	MS. SCHNEIDER: how, what's, what's
16	coming next?
17	MR. KEHOE: Well, we'll have to talk
18	because when I say I want take over the process,
19	I want take over the mailing and, and that. She
20	asked specific questions that you have to answer.
21	MS. SCHNEIDER: I saw that.
22	MR. KEHOE: Such as, you know,
23	justifying
24	MS. SCHNEIDER: Yeah. We'll take care of

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2	that, yes.
3	MR. KEHOE: Right. So you provide me
4	those answers and I'll send. Then our wetland
5	consultant would concur with the DEC.
6	MS. SCHNEIDER: Okay.
7	MR. KEHOE: but, but I think to be
8	honest, I mean it may, it may not seem like a big
9	addition and a green roof is definitely a good
10	idea. But this is probably going to take a couple
11	months to wind its way through our wetland
12	process and the DEC wetland process and then it
13	would be up to the planning board. I think
14	Yorktown might have an interest in it. I've got
15	to refer it to them. Then it would be up to the
16	board whether you wanted to have a public hearing
17	or not. I know it's just an addition to an
18	existing building, but I just want to put it on
19	the record that this may take
20	MR. KESSLER: Is it required?
21	MR. KEHOE: I don't think a public
22	hearing is required. It's required on special
23	permits, which I forget sometimes, that's why NK
24	Electric had to have the public hearing. I don't

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2	think it's required on this one, but I sort of
3	want to see if DEC has an opinion or it really
4	touches Yorktown's border. I'm going to refer it
5	to Yorktown. I don't think they're going to
6	require a public hearing per se, but
7	MR. KESSLER: Okay. Well, we're going to
8	refer this back anyway. We'll bring it back next
9	time under old business again and we'll see where
10	we are.
11	MR. KEHOE: With Paul and with the DEC.
12	MR. KESSLER: And to see whether we need
13	a public hearing or not.
14	MR. KEHOE: Okay.
15	MR. KESSLER: We can decide that at the
16	next meeting, I guess, right.
17	MR. KEHOE: Okay. But you want me to
18	draft a memo to the ZBA that you are okay with
19	the proposed location of the temporary tent?
20	MR. KESSLER: Are we going to prepare a
21	resolution for that, for the tent for the next
22	meeting, or how do we do that?
23	MR. KEHOE: Yes, I think it might be
24	good to have a resolution tracking that.

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2	MR. KESSLER: Okay.
3	MR. KEHOE: Because we'd want to put in
4	there that this tent has to come down when the CO
5	is issued for the addition. And the best way to
б	track that is in the resolution.
7	MR. KESSLER: Okay.
8	MR. KEHOE: So we're going to send it to
9	the ZBA without a resolution.
10	MR. KESSLER: We don't have one.
11	MR. KEHOE: But we don't
12	MR. KESSLER: But even so, yes, because
13	that way we can make sure it gets on the agenda
14	for the November meeting?
15	MR. KEHOE: Yeah, because your November
16	meeting might be too late to get on the November
17	agenda for the ZBA. So we'll take care of that
18	now.
19	MR. KESSLER: Okay.
20	MS. SCHNEIDER: Okay.
21	MR. KEHOE: And I'll, I'll draft
22	something up and send it back.
23	MR. KESSLER: Okay.
24	MR. KEHOE: So you can take a look at

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2	it.
3	MS. SCHNEIDER: Thank you.
4	MR. KESSLER: Alright. You got to be
5	you got all that Nora?
6	MS. HILDINGER: I'd like to make a
7	motion to, to declare intent to be the lead
8	agency and refer back to staff.
9	MR. KESSLER: And second?
10	MR. KOBASA: Second.
11	MR. KESSLER: And I guess on the
12	question, and also as we said, Chris will write
13	to ZBA telling that our intent to approve the
14	tent. And I think that's everything. So, we're on
15	the question. All in favor?
16	MULTIPLE: Aye.
17	MR. KESSLER: Opposed? Who's got the
18	honors
19	MS. SCHNEIDER: Thank you and good
20	evening.
21	MR. KOBASA: You too.
22	MS. SCHNEIDER: Bye.
23	MR. KOBASA: That's it?
24	MR. KESSLER: to adjourn. Who's got

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2	the honor to adjourn?
3	MR. KOBASA: Oh, I don't, I have the
4	honors to adjourn?
5	MR. KESSLER: No, no.
6	MR. KEHOE: I think David would have the
7	honors.
8	MR. KESSLER: Oh, David has the honors.
9	MR. DOUGLAS: I have the honors? Okay.
10	Sorry, I didn't, I didn't know that it was my
11	honors. Okay. I moved to adjourn the meeting.
12	MR. KESSLER: All right.
13	(The public board meeting concluded at
14	7:45 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATE OF ACCURACY

I, Ryan Manaloto, certify that the foregoing transcript of the Planning Board Meeting of the Town of Cortlandt on October 3, 2023 was prepared using the required transcription equipment and is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Certified By

phla

Date: October 19, 2023

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