



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS
NORTHBRIDGE SAFETY COMMITTEE

James Shuris, P.E., MBA -Chairman/Director of Public Works & Town Engineer
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NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
LINDA P. LAWREN

October 14, 2020

Northbridge Board of Selectmen
Northbridge Memorial Town Hall
7 Main Street, Whitinsville MA 01588

Dear Board of Selectmen:

The Northbridge Safety Committee met **WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14, 2020** virtually, via zoom. The following members were present: Chairman James Shuris, R. Gary Bechtholdt, George Murray, Chief of Police Walter Warchol, Peter Bedigian, Fire Chief David White, George Simmons and Jamie Luchini (Alternate) were present. Lt. Timothy Labrie (Alternate), and James Sheehan (Alternate) were absent.

The following members of the public were in attendance:

David Eldredge
Normand Hill
Josh Skowyra

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Jim Shuris called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

Chairman Shuris read the Governor's order

I. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – 09 SEPTEMBER 2020

Upon motion duly made (Chief Warchol) and seconded (P. Bedigian) the Safety Committee voted (6-0) to ACCEPT the meeting minutes of September 9, 2020. George Murray abstained

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II. 342-350 PROVIDENCE ROAD, SITE PLAN REVIEW: Normand Hill, Land Planning Inc.

Normand Hill gave an overview of the planned addition and remodeling of the current site. It is currently having retail space on the first floor with two apartments on the second floor. They will be converting the current retail space to two more apartments on the first floor. They would also be putting on an addition with two apartments on the first floor, as well as two apartments on the second floor. There will be Town water and Town Sewer. The plan will be to remove a large area of existing pavement and replace with grass. Also, the existing parking lot will be resurfaced.

Chief Warchol inquired about parking spaces, sighting his concern about overflow parking at the site.

N. Hill stated that there were 16 proposed parking spaces, 2 per apartment, assigned.

After discussion, it was agreed that 4 more parking spaces would be added to the plan.

J. Shuris questioned safe sight distance with added parking within the site.

N. Hill assured the Committee that cars would be parked 25 feet from the road.

Chief White expressed concern over fire apparatus access around the building. He would like to see it addressed on the plans. Also, question how many stories the proposed addition would be.

J. Shuris advised against any paved entrance being over 24 feet wide, per Town code. Also, raised questions about how they would handle the current shared entrance with the house next door.

N. Hill stated they would extend the berm line and close the entrance to 24 feet.

G. Murray inquired about site lighting plans.

N. Hill described that all lighting would be hooded and not affect neighbors.

P. Bedigian asked about a central mailbox for the site

D. Eldredge explained they would utilize the existing central mailbox location, just expanding it.

Upon motion duly made (G. Murray) and seconded (Chief Warchol) the Safety Committee voted (7-0) to have the applicant re-submit, for review at a future Safety Committee meeting, a site plan that addresses the discussed issues with parking, lighting, fire apparatus access and a central mailbox.

III. STATUS OF ACTION: 09 SEPTEMBER 2020 SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

J. Luchini stated he was awaiting delivery of sign poles to move forward with all sign placements.

J. Shuris explained his review of the traffic light issue at Plummers' Corner. He feels it is a timing issue and will reach out to a MASS DOT traffic engineer for further adjustments.

J. Luchini felt that the timing had been changed when MASS DOT added a flashing yellow arrow to this Location.

J. Shuris explained the Shared Streets Project that has been achieved as of last week. This included painting new traffic markings, parking spaces and crosswalks. Also, the placing of temporary water barriers to create a safe sidewalk until such time a permanent sidewalk can be constructed under the Complete Streets Project.

Chief Warchol feels this will not solve the traffic issue once school is fully reopened.

J. Shuris let the Committee know that he is awaiting the paving contractor to begin roadwork this fall.

J. Shuris stated that the blocked parking lot at Shining Rock discussion is in the previous meeting minutes for Selectmen review.

P. Bedigian inquired how traffic issues were going at the new Balmer School construction site.

G. Simmons stated that there were no issues he was aware of.

IV. NEXT SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

To be determined

V. ADJORNMENT

Having no additional business, the Safety Committee adjourned its meeting of Wednesday October 14, 2020 at or about 10:44AM.

Respectfully yours,


James Shuris, P.E., MBA

James Shuris, P.E., MBA - Director of Public Works & Town Engineer
CHAIRMAN, NORTHBRIDGE SAFETY COMMITTEE

-JCL

Cc: Northbridge Town Clerk
/File

Northbridge Town Manager

Lt. Timothy Labrie