TOWN OF CORTLANDT PLANNING AND ZONING BOARDS

PLANNING BOARD MEETING

Town Hall

1 Heady Street

Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567

July 1, 2025 6:30 p.m. - 7:53 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Thomas A. Bianchi, Vice-Chairperson

Nora Hildinger, Member

Kevin Kobadsa, Member

Peter McKinley, Member

Jeff Rothfeder, Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Steven Kessler, Chairperson

David Douglas, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Chris Kehoe, AICP, Director of Planning

Michael Cunningham, Esq., Deputy Town Attorney

Heather LaVarnway, CNU-A, Planner

Chris Lapine, P.E., Engineer

1	July 1, 2025
2	(The board meeting commenced at 6:30 p.m.)
3	MR. THOMAS BIANCHI: Ready. Okay,
4	welcome to the July 1, 2025 Town of Cortlandt
5	Planning Board meeting. Please rise for the
6	pledge.
7	MULTIPLE: I pledge allegiance to the
8	flag of the United States of America and to the
9	Republic for which it stands, one nation under
10	God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for
11	all.
12	MR. BIANCHI: Roll call.
13	MR. CHRIS KEHOE: Mr. Kobadsa?
14	MR. KEVIN KOBADSA: Here.
15	MR. KEHOE: Ms. Hildinger?
16	MS. NORA HILDINGER: Here.
17	MR. KEHOE: Mr. Rothfeder?
18	MR. JEFFREY ROTHFEDER: Here.
19	MR. KEHOE: Mr. Bianchi?
20	MR. THOMAS BIANCHI: Here.
21	MR. KEHOE: Mr. McKinley?
22	MR. PETER MCKINLEY: Here.
23	MR. KEHOE: Mr. Kessler and Mr. Douglas
24	noted as absent.

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MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Thank you. There are no changes to the agenda tonight. I'll entertain a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of June 5th.

MR. ROTHFEDER: So moved.

MR. BIANCHI: Second, please.

MS. HILDINGER: Second.

MR. MCKINLEY: Second.

MR. BIANCHI: I have a second, Okay, on a question, all in favor?

MULTIPLE: Aye.

MR. BIANCHI: All opposed? Okay. Thank you. Okay. We'll address the correspondence items first. The first one is a letter dated June 23, 2025 from Debra Carter, the town receiver of taxes confirming unpaid school taxes, enabling the planning board to consider rescinding resolution 11-25, which granted a second, one year time extension of the conditional site plan approval, and a special permit for the Hudson Ridge Wellness Center, located at 2016 Quaker Ridge Road. Good evening.

MR. BOB DAVIS: Good evening. Mr.

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Chairman, members of the board. I'm Bob Davis.

I'm the attorney, as you know, for Hudson

Wellness. And I'd just like to speak to this, but
just for a couple of minutes.

As you know, on June 6, 2023, the board rendered its resolution of site development plan approval and special permit approval for this application for a hospital to serve those who are afflicted by substance use disorders. About a year later on May 7, 2024, the board granted the applicant its first one-year extension under your code to meet the conditions of approval. That was an extension of that 12-month period, and that was done to and including June 6, 2025. So, at your May 6, 2025 meeting, the board granted the applicant the second and final extension to meet the conditions of approval to and including June 6, 2026.

And it was very shortly after the board filed its written resolution of that extension that an issue arose regarding the 2024 school taxes. Just prior to the May meeting, our client had been reminded that the 2024 school taxes, as

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well as the recently billed April, 2025 town tax were due and, and must be paid. So our client immediately made payment online of the town tax in the amount of \$18,452.92, which itself included a very small two percent late penalty of about \$361 because it was a few days late.

At the same time, our client submitted an online payment of the 2024 school taxes in excess of \$50,000, which included late penalties of course. But then we were later advised by the town that the school tax payment had not gone through, apparently due to insufficient funds.

So, by way of prologue for explanation of that, it should be noted that our client, since it purchased the property in 2009, has paid this town some \$1 million in taxes, partially while being before this board for some 10 years on this matter, all that time without any benefit of an income producing property.

In addition to the million dollars in taxes that have been paid, our client, as you, as you may know, has spent millions of dollars on the project and numerous litigations and all of

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which has been successful. The applicant also, except that as part of the 2023 approval, some 34 rather onerous conditions of approval demanded by the neighbors, including a 43 percent reduction in its patients and staff.

So our client has a pretty solid record before this town of acting properly, and that's reflected in every court decision in those litigations being in our client's favor. So this unfortunate snafu, if you will, with respect only to the May school tax payment, resulted from several coincidental confluences of a number of events that took place at that time.

Our client was traveling on business at the time of the May 6th meeting, and was attending, all at the same time, along with an assistant from his staff to the wiring of funds to cover the tax payments and to the making of those payments on your online system via cell phone. And unfortunately, he was misadvised by staff that the wire would cover all of the taxes due at that time.

The confusion at that time rose in part

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from the fact that his principal financial partner had suddenly dropped out of the picture and had ceased making his contributions to the project and to the taxes in particular, which he had been handling.

In addition, Steve Laker, who, you know, he's a former Buchanan trustee and who has appeared with me throughout all the years as the active point person and manager of this particular project, had recently left his regular involvement on this project to work on another project for our client in North Carolina. So he's been out of state much of that time.

And then thirdly, our principal client himself had just undertaken a substantial new international business venture, which requires him, still required him at that time, and still does, to travel extensively throughout the world which makes him very difficult to contact.

However, despite those combined events, the school tax was paid last Tuesday in the amount of \$51,522.11, and that included two 14 percent late penalties, along with check fees

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July 1, 2025

totaling the substantial sum of over \$6,000 in extra charges.

So our client has already been significantly penalized for the late payment, and the town has been made completely whole, not only as of this date, but as of May 6th as well. And certainly our client does apologize for any inconvenience to the town beyond that.

I would note from a legal perspective that this matter involves only an extension of the 2023 approval, not actually the approval itself as relates to your Chapter 279. And as you know, such extensions are not only routinely given by the board, sometimes many extensions are given, but are also given on occasion retroactively when not sought initially in a timely fashion or a proper fashion, albeit this application was certainly timely as of May 6th.

So accordingly, just in sum, having paid the town a million dollars or so in taxes to date, and having incurred millions of dollars in expenses on this project, we would just respectfully submit that the final May 6th

July 1, 2025

extension should remain in place to enable our client to strive to meet the conditions of approval, which are numerous, within the coming year. It's the last extension. And under these, circumstances, you know, it, it is most advisable on our view for the board to take no action on the matter.

The board could reenact the extension retroactively if it so chose to do so, but there's really no reason for that. And under these unique circumstances, it would seem that any other result would be a very unfair and unwarranted imposition of a rather extremely draconian additional penalty on our client, which would cause substantial financial hardship and damages to our client. So we, we thank you for your kind consideration, and we would ask that the board take no action to change the extension granted on May 6th.

MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Davis.

MR. DAVIS: Thank you.

MR. BIANCHI: Yeah, it -- we, we acted

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at the last meeting on good faith, based on the information we received and it was not accurate, and the board doesn't take that lightly. It --

MR. BIANCHI: -- puts us in an awkward position to approve something that shouldn't have been approved.

MR. DAVIS: No, I understand that. I --

MR. DAVIS: I, I take that totally seriously, and I, I expressed that, as he'll, he'll tell you on many occasions to Mr. Cunningham, when he advised me of this, I, I was taken aback by it. I, you know, stand on my word when I give it to this board. I acted in good faith as well, because I had seen the receipts, which I provided to Mr. Cunningham and the board, of those payments. So I had every reason also to believe they had been made and, and had gone through. And I was most chagrined and embarrassed to find out that they hadn't. So, I, I take it very seriously and, on behalf of our client, I certainly apologize to the board for that occurring. But again, he's paid the price for it. He's paid the penalties in full, and, and the

1 July 1, 2025 2 town has been made whole for that, for that 3 error. 4 MR. BIANCHI: Okay. What assurances, 5 when's, when's the next tax increment due? MR. DAVIS: The next tax payment would 6 7 be due, I believe will be the 2025 school tax would be --8 9 MR. BIANCHI: September? 10 MR. DAVIS: -- payable the first half in 11 September. The bill hasn't been rendered for that 12 yet, as far as I know. 13 MR. BIANCHI: All right. How, what 14 assurances do we have that your client will pay 15 those taxes on time? 16 17 18 19 20

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MR. DAVIS: Well, you certainly, first of all, of course, if, if they're not paid on time, penalties will be, will be due. But you certainly have my assurance that I, I expect to be meeting with our client next week to -- and, and his consultants to, to talk about moving forward with meeting the conditions of approval in the next year. And certainly a point of emphasis will be the fact that those taxes have

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1	Page 1 July 1, 2025
2	to be paid.
3	MR. BIANCHI: And then there's another
4	increment due next 2026 in January?
5	MR. DAVIS: In January.
6	MR. BIANCHI: All right. So my concern
7	is, you know, we had all of this trouble paying
8	these taxes for this year, you know, what
9	assurances, because this, this extension goes for
10	a year. And that'll be after those taxes.
11	MR. DAVIS: Well, that
12	MR. BIANCHI: We don't want to have an
13	extension with, again, going through this whole
14	thing.
15	MR. DAVIS: Well, we don't need, you
16	know, we won't be seeking another extension
17	because your statute, your, your local law
18	doesn't allow for one.
19	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Yeah. But this one
20	will be in effect until next May I guess it is.
21	MR. DAVIS: Well, this, this extension
22	would be in effect till next June 6th.
23	MR. BIANCHI: June 6th.
24	MR. DAVIS: And that's, as I said,

1 July 1, 2025 2 that's the last extension, so --3 MR. BIANCHI: Okay. MR. DAVIS: -- we have to, we have to 4 5 deal with the conditions of approval. Okay. Does anyone on the board have any -- we, we have an 6 7 ancillary issue here that we'll discuss regarding the wetland, watershed regulations. But as far as 8 9 the, tax payment, does anybody on the board have 10 any comments or questions on, on that? 11 MR. ROTHFEDER: No. 12 MR. BIANCHI: No. It's not a public 13 hearing. I'm sorry. I, I cannot allow -- we've 14 had six public hearings on this --15 MR. KEHOE: Yes. 16 MR. BIANCHI: -- case. 17 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yeah. 18 MR. BIANCHI: And resolution on both the 19 Mahlab and the, and this Hudson case. And there 20 was plenty, there was ample time at that time for 21 the public to speak, so we're not in situation 22 where we can allow any more comment. 2.3 MR. KEHOE: But just that point, as we 24 mentioned at the work session, Mr. Shannon did

1	July 1, 2025
2	provide you a written statement.
3	MR. BIANCHI: Yes, we got that. And we
4	read it.
5	MR. KEHOE: I just want that on the
6	record
7	MR. BIANCHI: Right.
8	MR. KEHOE: that you did receive his
9	written comments.
10	MR. BIANCHI: Yes.
11	MR. KEHOE: Okay.
12	MR. DAVIS: Thank you, thank you, Mr.
13	Chairman.
14	MR. BIANCHI: Thank, thank you, Mr.
15	Davis. All right, so, Jeff, did you want to talk
16	about the watershed?
17	MR. ROTHFEDER: Yeah. So we've gotten
18	the town has gotten some letters about residents
19	who are concerned about whether, when you start
20	building, you know, whether you'll have to follow
21	the current rules of, of the, the new watershed
22	overlay or not. And, considering how
23	controversial this, this whole project has been,
24	I feel like we really have to let the residents

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know what's going on if they ask questions about it. So, Chris, you, you wrote a letter back and I, I looked at it again after you raised it at the work session, in which you did say clearly that they were not exempt from the new rules once they go into construction.

And you brought up the Mahlab thing.

But, I, I feel like we need to get that on the record. And, and it'd be Mike Preziosi, I guess, who would be making that decision or, or who could at least opine on that?

MR. KEHOE: Yes. We'll -- I'll check with our legal staff and Mike Preziosi, and we'll get you the letter --

MR. ROTHFEDER: Okay.

MR. KEHOE: -- that you requested at the work session.

MR. ROTHFEDER: Okay, great.

MR. DAVIS: And we'll reserve comment on that. I, I would just add to that, that, as you may recall, there's little, if any, what you would call new construction outside the interior of the buildings that are involved. There's some

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driveway work, a little bit of site, site work.

But it, it, I think it'll depend on what the topic is as to whether it falls under that or not. We, we have looked at that law in connection with some other things, so it is questionable.

But I think we'll cross that road, you know, when we come to it. It's really a building permit type of matter.

MR. ROTHFEDER: Yeah, I'm -- I totally agree, which is why I'd like to have that letter, and I'd like you guys to respond and let's just be transparent about it so that the community knows what's going on.

MR. DAVIS: Yeah. I'll have a conversation. You know, we haven't really looked at that again in connection with tonight's meeting, but I'll certainly have a conversation with Michael in, in that regard and give him our viewpoint. And I'll also be talking to our engineer about it as to what the implications are, if any.

MR. ROTHFEDER: Right.

MR. DAVIS: Because this property

1 July 1, 2025 2 initially was a, a very small portion in, in the Indian Book Watershed. Now, apparently, as it's 3 been remapped, there's more of it. But for 4 5 example, I, I think things can be done with the, with the septic system, which was substantially 6 7 reduced when we reduced the number of people, you 8 know, to keep it out, to meet the new 9 requirements. 10 MR. ROTHFEDER: Yeah. 11 MR. DAVIS: And I, we had some 12 preliminary talks about that. But we don't, we 13 don't see it as, as a significant issue. 14 MR. ROTHFEDER: Okay. I just wanted it 15 on the record. Thanks. 16 MR. DAVIS: Of course. 17 MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Thank you. 18 MR. DAVIS: Thank you. 19 MR. BIANCHI: So, there's no action to 20 be taken on, on this application at this point. 21 We'll, we'll leave it as it is basically. So I'll 22 move on to the next correspondence item, a letter

dated June 24, 2025 from David Steinmetz

requesting a site inspection for the Dakota

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1	July 1, 2025
2	Recycling Services, Services, LLC and Dakota
3	Concrete Services, LLC, located at 2099 Albany
4	Post Road. Good evening.
5	MR. DAVID STEINMETZ: Good Evening, Mr.
6	Chairman. We are here this simply this evening
7	trying to get that site inspection scheduled,
8	David Steinmetz from the law firm of Zarin and
9	Steinmetz on behalf of Bilotta and Dakota.
10	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. I believe that we
11	have, scheduled this, among others on July 14th
12	in the evening. I think that's a Monday evening.
13	So we just have to discuss the time, 6:00 o'clock
14	is probably a good time.
15	MR. KEHOE: I would suggest you do this
16	one second. So you start at the specialty trade
17	electrical contractor
18	MR. BIANCHI: Okay.
19	MR. KEHOE: at 5:00 and then you
20	would go to this one second.
21	MR. ROTHFEDER: Yeah.
22	MR. KEHOE: So most likely they'll be
23	there 5:15, 5:30, something like that.
24	MR. STEINMETZ: Got it.

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1	July 1, 2025
2	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Is that, is that
3	acceptable?
4	MR. STEINMETZ: Very good.
5	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. So with that, I'll
6	turn it over to Kevin.
7	MR. KOBADSA: All right. I'd like to
8	make a motion to schedule the site visit on July
9	Monday, July 14th.
10	MR. BIANCHI: Just a second.
11	MR. MCKINLEY: Second.
12	MR. BIANCHI: We have a second. One the
13	question, all in favor?
14	MULTIPLE: Aye.
15	MR. BIANCHI: All opposed. Thank you.
16	Our next correspondence item is a letter dated
17	June 17, 2025 from David Steinmetz requesting the
18	sixth 90-day time extension of final plat
19	approval for the Evergreen Subdivision, located
20	at 2003 Crompond Road.
21	MR. STEINMETZ: Good evening, Mr.
22	Chairman, members of the board, David Steinmetz
23	from the law firm of Zarin and Steinmetz
24	representing VS Construction in connection with

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the Evergreen Subdivision. We are continuing to work on the infrastructure review and approval with your town staff. That has been going back and forth between our engineers and the town engineer and that is why we are seeking yet another extension. Obviously, this project is moving forward. We will be later on this evening's agenda with regard to one of the specific aspects, but we do need to keep the subdivision approval alive.

MR. BIANCHI: Okay. And you mentioned that you expect these items that you're working on to be completed shortly?

MR. STEINMETZ: That is my understanding, water districts, drainage district, sewer district, and a, a number of technical issues with regard to the road and specific subdivision infrastructure, not the individual lots.

MR. BIANCHI: Right. Okay, any questions, comments from board on this?

MR. ROTHFEDER: Uh-uh.

MR. BIANCHI: Then Nora, would you take

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1	Page 2 July 1, 2025
2	it?
3	MS. HILDINGER: Okay. I'd like to make a
4	motion to adopt Resolution 15-25 to grant the 90-
5	day time extension of the final plot approval for
6	Evergreen Subdivision.
7	MR. BIANCHI: And
8	MR. ROTHFEDER: Second
9	MR. BIANCHI: We have a second. And on
10	the question, I should say. All in favor?
11	MULTIPLE: Aye.
12	MR. BIANCHI: All opposed.
13	MR. STEINMETZ: Thank you.
14	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Moving on to another
15	correspondence item, a letter dated June 18, 2025
16	from Russell Rodriguez of Palisades Fuel
17	requesting planning board approval of a time
18	extension to apply for a building permit for the
19	proposed gas station/convenience store located at
20	2060 East Main Street.
21	MR. LINO SCIARRETTA: Good evening, Mr.
22	Chairman, members of the board town staff. My
23	name is Lino Sciaretta, partner with the law firm
24	Bleakley Platt and Schmidt in White Plains, New

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York. With me this evening is Russell Rodriguez of Palisades. What we're asking Mr. Chairman, is an extension of the time to file a building permit.

And really the, the sole reason for that request is because our, our consultants have been dealing, since 2022 when this project was approved, with New York State DOT to get this three-stage permit process off the ground. And we're, we're getting close. And we believe, by, by this summer, we'll be able to begin the work on this project. And that's really the reason why we're asking for this extension.

I know Kimley-Horn had mentioned to me that they started this process with DOT back in 2023, shortly after we received our October, 2022 approvals. It took them about two submissions — nine submissions, excuse me, almost one every month until the final submission of October of last year to DOT.

Again, it's a three-stage process with DOT. So we're, we're just about to the, the, the end of the tunnel there. So hopefully we'll see

1 July 1, 2025 2 the light and hence the reason for the, the extension. We have Mr. Rodriguez here, if there 3 is any other further questions of the board, but 4 5 that's, we respectfully request that extension. Again, it's similar to other gas 6 7 stations that, that have -- in town, and you, as said in the work session, it's been done before 8 9 this type of request. So hopefully the board will entertain it. Thank You. 10 11 MR. BIANCHI: Yeah, on that point, this 12 is a retroactive -- you're asking for a 13 retroactive one-year time extension and an 14 additional time extension? 15 MR. SCIARRETTA: Correct, Mr. Chairman. 16 MR. BIANCHI: So we encourage you, while 17 we've done it in the past, I don't think it's a 18 good idea to do retroactive time extensions. You 19 should do them on time, basically. 20 MR. SCIARRETTA: Understood. 21 MR. BIANCHI: So if there are any

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Chairman.

Geneva Worldwide, Inc. 228 Park Ave S - PMB 27669. New York, NY 10003

MR. SCIARRETTA: We will. Thank you, Mr.

further ones, please be cognizant of that.

1	July 1, 2025
2	MR. BIANCHI: And I think any questions
3	or comments from the board on this? Peter?
4	MR. MCKINLEY: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to
5	adopt the resolution 16-35, Russell Rodriguez of
6	Palisades Fuel for a time extension to apply for
7	a building permit.
8	MR. BIANCHI: Thank you, second?
9	MS. HILDINGER: Second.
10	MR. BIANCHI: And on the question. All
11	in favor?
12	MULTIPLE: Aye.
13	MR. BIANCHI: All opposed?
14	MR. SCIARRETTA: Thank you. Have a Happy
15	4th.
16	MR. BIANCHI: Good evening. Moving on to
17	old business, the first item is an application of
18	PSW Realty for the property of AJ Picarello, Jr.
19	for site plan approval and a special permit for a
20	specialty trade electrical contractor for
21	property located at 2015 Albany Post Road.
22	Drawings latest revised dated June 18, 2025.
23	MR. JIM ANNICCHIARICO: Hi. Good evening
24	everyone, Jim Annicciarico with Cronin

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Engineering. So yes, on June 18th we made a resubmission, which was based on comments we received from the planning department and from the town consulting engineer. Many of them overlapped, were similar comments. I don't believe there were any really major issues.

Landscaping was probably one of the larger issues. We actually added to the site plan. A lot of the existing landscaping that exists needs to be spruced up, a lot of weeding needs to be done. But there is substantial existing landscaping in the concrete curved islands that are in the front and to the, to the sides of the driveway that goes up to the back part of the property.

I could go over, you know, each one of them. It might be best to do that during a site inspection with you to show you exactly what we've done, what's there.

One of the items was, you know, would there be a sign on the building? There's an existing sign for the bike shop right now. My client plans to put a business sign in that same

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location. It will obviously have to comply with the building regulations and requirements.

Minor improvements will be done to the outside of the building, probably possibly painting some fascia repair. The building, as we mentioned, will be an office for Switch Inc.

Electrical. And there'll be some minor repairs, you know, inside, but probably mostly just cosmetic, setting up for their office.

easement that's shown on the site plan and on the survey on the left hand side of the property. Our understanding is, I did provide that easement to Chris. It's our understanding that it was for a waterline -- water service, I should say. I don't believe that water service was ever installed. It was for a property to the rear of the property.

Probably the biggest item that was brought up is the request to contact the DOT or New York State about the three parking spaces that are in the front of the building. I'm not really sure who I'm going to contact. I'm going to start with the DOT. DOT doesn't move too

1 July 1, 2025 2 quickly. MR. BIANCHI: Yeah, we know that. 3 4 MR. ANNICCHIARICO: As many, as you just heard from the last --5 6 MR. KEHOE: Those spaces exist now, 7 correct? MR. ANNICCHIARICO: They do exist now. 8 9 And I should make a point that this application 10 was approved for Down Cycle, a much more intense 11 site plan with the proposed building in the back 12 of the property. So, we did receive a lot of new 13 comments that weren't comments the first time 14 around. But this, this is an extremely scaled 15 back version of that. Many of the items in the 16 front of the property, the parking spaces and so 17 on, they, they are the same as the application that was made for Down Cycle that was approved by 18 19 your board. 20 We did also show some proposed 21 landscaping up in the back part, just to kind of 22 really as, as more -- we were asked to put a 2.3 quide rail there. The client really doesn't want

to have to get into the installation of an

1 July 1, 2025 2 expensive guide rail. We've proposed to put some boulders and intersperse them with some spruce 3 4 trees. And we think that'll be more, more than 5 sufficient to provide a barrier for the, for the cars backing out or the vans backing out back 6 7 there. MR. BIANCHI: Regarding the exterior of 8 9 the building, do we need architectural review on 10 that, or is that just staying the same? 11 MR. KEHOE: It's more or less staying 12 the same. They'll comment on any new signage. 13 MR. BIANCHI: That's what I thought. 14 Yeah, okay. All right, so there's basically no 15 changes that you're proposing here at this point 16 from the last time we looked at this? 17 MR. ANNICCHIARICO: There are changes, 18 you know. Most of, most of the items that were 19 brought up were addressed. 20 MR. BIANCHI: Okay. 21 MR. KEHOE: But you mentioned the 22 biggest change. If you look at the plan, in back

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of the building, it now shows six parking spaces

for the, you know, the vans associated with the

1	July 1, 2025
2	electrical contractor. When you previously
3	approved it for Down Cycle, you proved a building
4	back there, where they were going to store
5	material. So I think that's to Jim's point that -
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7	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: Oh, okay.
8	MR. KEHOE: it is a less intensive
9	use.
10	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: Right. All right. I,
11	I may have misunderstood. I was saying we, we
12	made some changes since our, our last submission
13	for this project.
14	MR. BIANCHI: Yeah.
15	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: But you, you were
16	asking for the previous project.
17	MR. BIANCHI: Yeah.
18	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: Yeah, right. So
19	it's, it's much less intense, yes.
20	MR. BIANCHI: Okay.
21	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: I mean, that
22	building, we had drainage required for that
23	building. We had, back then the proposed
24	landscaping was more along the side lot line, I

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1	July 1, 2025
2	guess just to really provide some screening to
3	the neighbor. However, there is a fence there,
4	There's a solid fence there, a solid PVC fence.
5	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. All right. Thank
6	you.
7	MR. ROTHFEDER: Do we have a landscaping
8	plan? besides the one that's, that's in this, the
9	site plan?
10	MR. KEHOE: Well, no. We requested a
11	landscape plan and that is his response to that.
12	MR. ROTHFEDER: Can we get more specific
13	to that?
14	MR. KEHOE: We'll, we do have to have
15	another staff level meeting because he's
16	responded to the plans, but what we're doing now
17	is when they respond to the plans, we want to go
18	over to see whether we agree with the responses
19	or if we think they could be further improved. So
20	Heather and myself and Chris Lapine will have
21	more comments on the landscape plan. So you can -
22	- you'll be able to see a new landscape plan by
23	the
24	MR. ROTHFEDER: Specifically what

	\blacksquare
1	Page 32 July 1, 2025
2	they're going to plant and all that?
3	MR. KEHOE: Yeah.
4	MR. ROTHFEDER: Yeah, okay.
5	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: I'd actually like
6	to, at the site meeting, I'd like to show you
7	what's there and, and you know
8	MR. ROTHFEDER: Oh, okay.
9	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: Yeah.
10	MR. ROTHFEDER: Okay.
11	MR. BIANCHI: All right.
12	MR. KOBADSA: What, what material are
13	those six parking spaces on?
14	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: Just gravel, dirt.
15	MR. KOBADSA: All right. You just, your
16	plan shows gravel kind of ending at a point, so -
17	_
18	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: I mean, right now
19	it's really just kind of overgrown.
20	MR. KOBADSA: Okay.
21	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: You know, weeds.
22	It's not a manicured lawn or anything like that,
23	certainly.
24	MR. KOBADSA: Got you.

1	July 1, 2025
2	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. I believe we'll be
3	ready to, hold a site, I'm sorry, planning
4	public hearing on this on the 4th. Is that
5	correct? And schedule a site visit. So Jeff, if
6	you want to take it?
7	MR. ROTHFEDER: I, I move that we
8	schedule a site visit for the 14th. At what time
9	do is that going to be 5:30 or 6:00?
10	MR. KEHOE: 5:00.
11	MR. ROTHFEDER: 5:00. Okay. And, and
12	schedule a public hearing for September 4th.
13	MR. BIANCHI: Thank you. On the
14	second, please.
15	MS. HILDINGER: Second.
16	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. On the question. All
17	in favor?
18	MULTIPLE: Aye.
19	MR. BIANCHI: All opposed. Thank You.
20	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: Thank you very much.
21	MR. BIANCHI: Good evening.
22	MR. ANNICCHIARICO: Good night.
23	MR. BIANCHI: Our next item under old
24	business is an application of Richard Williams,

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P.E. on behalf of JAM Storage, LLC for the property of Francisco Portillo for site plan approval and a wetland permit for the construction of approximately 60,000 square feet self-storage facility and related site improvements for property located at 2059 Albany Post Road, drawings dated May 27, 2025.

MR. STEINMETZ: Good evening, Mr.

Chairman, members of the board, David Steinmetz

from the law firm of Zarin and Steinmetz here

this evening, representing JAM Storage. I'm

joined this evening by Jamie LoGiudice from

Insight Engineering. As you heard at the work

session, this is a site you have already visited.

This is a site you have seen plans, different

iterations of plans.

And most importantly, during our site visit last fall, you all suggested that we explore the possibility of a vehicular connection to Memorial Drive, rather than coming down the extension from Farris Avenue. I'm pleased to tell you that we have had productive discussions with the town about possibly securing that right of

1 July 1, 2025 2 access. And most importantly, we have been able to have a technical analysis done of the Memorial 3 4 Drive access. We believe that the Memorial Drive 5 access represents a reduction in wetland impact. 6 7 Jamie's going to speak to that briefly. We were 8 asked by your board and by staff to do kind of a 9 quick comparative analysis. We want to share that 10 and then answer any questions. 11 MS. JAMIE LOGIUDICE: Good evening. So 12 as you see on your screens there, we have this 13 lovely color coded --14 MR. BIANCHI: Excuse me. Your name again 15 is? 16 MS. LOGIUDICE: Jamie LoGiudice from 17 Inside Engineering. Thank you. 18 MR. BIANCHI: Thank you. 19 MS. LOGIUDICE: We have this lovely 20 color coded chart and plan for you basically that 21 describes what's going on on site, the blue being the wetlands on site, the yellow showing the 22 2.3 wetland buffers, the steep slopes within the

wetlands shown in orange, and the steep slopes

2.3

within the wetland buffers shown in pink.

What we also delineate on here is a green dashed line that demarcates the extent of the area measured for our detailed wetland and wetland buffer area table, shown on the next sheet, which outlines essentially the various areas of the amount of onsite wetland, wetland buffer, offsite wetland, offsite wetland buffers, the proposed disturbances, the proposed mitigation.

MR. BIANCHI: Could you put the mic a little bit closer to you? Because I, I'm having trouble hearing.

MS. LOGIUDICE: Sorry.

MR. BIANCHI: Yeah, that's better.

MS. LOGIUDICE: But basically what I wanted to point out is the areas shown on that chart, areas one through five, remain exactly the same from their existing between the Farris Court alternative to the Memorial Drive alternative. In the -- we have also areas shown in red and green, the red being the less, less of an improved condition and the green being a more improved

2.3

2 condition to the wetlands.

Memorial Drive alternative access is that the proposed disturbance to offsite wetland is less. We have zero disturbance to wetlands now where there were, where there was 200 square feet. The proposed disturbance to the offsite buffers are less, shown as 17,180 square feet where there were over 18,000 square feet.

The proposed mitigation areas including the gravel wetland, is also -- I'm sorry, the mitigation areas -- is also more, shown as 26,900 square feet, where it was just over 24,000 square feet.

So overall, this is a better alternative based on the conditions we have within the wetland and the wetland buffer.

MR. STEINMETZ: In addition to the wetland impact, we do believe that the vehicular access in general will be better coming from Memorial Drive. So, we do think it was a prudent suggestion that the board gave us. We have analyzed it. I think there is information that is

1	July 1, 2025
2	still presently being reviewed by staff, but we
3	wanted to share that with you. You kind of
4	steered us in that direction and we want to make
5	sure that we should remain committed to that
6	alternative.
7	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Thank you. Comments,
8	questions on board on this?
9	MR. KEHOE: So just sorry, go ahead.
10	MR. MCKINLEY: I, I was going to say, I
11	like the access off of Memorial. I think it's
12	better for the residents on Farris Court to have
13	the access of being off of Memorial, so.
14	MR. STEINMETZ: Thank you.
15	MR. KEHOE: So the, the direct wetland
16	impact for Farris Court was a very small amount,
17	sort of at the stream crossing?
18	MS. LOGIUDICE: It was, yes.
19	MR. KEHOE: Right. So
20	MS. LOGIUDICE: Yep. And that's no
21	longer proposed.
22	MR. KEHOE: Right. Okay. So there's,
23	there, there's very little direct wetland impact
24	in either alternative. But there's none now?

1	July 1, 2025
2	MS. LOGIUDICE: Correct.
3	MR. STEINMETZ: Correct. We've
4	completely eliminated it and reduced the buffer.
5	MR. BIANCHI: Just the buffer area?
6	MR. STEINMETZ: The primary benefit is
7	the buffer.
8	MR. BIANCHI: Yeah.
9	MR. STEINMETZ: And we think, you know,
10	potentially a, just a more functional, some might
11	argue a safer, but certainly a more functional
12	access. And my understanding is your independent
13	wetlands consultant confirmed
14	MR. BIANCHI: Yeah.
15	MR. STEINMETZ: our position.
16	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. All right, if there
17	are no comments or questions, further questions
18	from the board, I'll
19	MR. STEINMETZ: Before you proceed to
20	your resolution, the only thing that I would ask
21	is that your board at least consider scheduling a
22	public hearing for the September meeting simply
23	because there is no meeting in August. I, I
24	realize that staff may have some additional

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review that they wish to conduct and your board would always have the right t, tell us that you are not going to convene that public hearing if you did not think we are ready. But just kind of foreshadowing, you're going to hear me say that three other times this evening because I have other applications. And with all due respect to all of us who have no desire to be here in August, we can't be here in August. And I'm, I'm simply asking the board to consider scheduling and you can always pull the plug.

MR. BIANCHI: Well, we've done a site visit on this, as you indicated.

MR. STEINMETZ: That is correct.

MR. BIANCHI: Do we -- are we going to be ready, are you guys going to be ready for a public hearing in September on this? We, we received comments from --

MR. KEHOE: Well if I had to pick one of the next four that was possibly I could waiver on it would be this one, because you've already done the site inspection.

MR. STEINMETZ: The only one I don't

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have a client in the room, that's the one you're going to pick, Chris?

MR. KEHOE: Well, but, but, but true.

We, we, we don't have the building elevations

yet. We have no idea what the building's going to

look like. We don't really have a good idea of

the circulation necessarily. Now what David's

going to claim is he's got, you know, 62 days in

order to be able to provide that to you and that

if, I don't think he's go doing a good enough

job, we don't have to have the public hearing.

But it's, once you schedule it, it's scheduled,

you know.

MR. STEINMETZ: You play me, I'll play you.

MR. ROTHFEDER: Yeah, I was just going to say he's doing both sides of the conversation.

MR. STEINMETZ: Well, love it. Look, I think we have -- my client much earlier on in the process, I think showed some representative architectural images. We certainly will. If, if that's the best you got, we'll have architecture for the public to react to at that meeting. No

1	July 1, 2025
2	members of the public have participated in this
3	process. They may still. But just for the sake of
4	efficiency, I'm asking for a procedural motion
5	schedule the hearing. And if by September 7th you
6	guys aren't comfortable, I'm going to come to the
7	microphone and you're going to say we're not
8	opening the public hearing Steinmetz, here's why.
9	MR. BIANCHI: Uh
10	MR. ROTHFEDER: I think it's fine.
11	MR. BIANCHI: Everybody's okay with
12	that?
13	MR. MCKINLEY: That's fine.
14	MR. KOBADSA: Okay.
15	MR. BIANCHI: Well with that condition
16	that you mentioned, yes.
17	MR. STEINMETZ: Got it.
18	MR. BIANCHI: Provided that all the
19	information is submitted and reviewed and ready
20	to go.
21	MR. STEINMETZ: Understood. That's,
22	that's all I'm asking.
23	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Uh, so, we'll add
24	that. I think we have to declare lead agency on

	De era 1
1	Page 4 July 1, 2025
2	this.
3	MR. STEINMETZ: That's correct, you do.
4	MR. ROTHFEDER: Yes.
5	MR. BIANCHI: Okay, Kevin.
6	MR. KOBADSA: All right. I'd like to
7	make a motion to declare the planning board lead
8	agency. And then, second motion to schedule a
9	public hearing for September 4th, provided that
10	the
11	MR. STEINMETZ: 7th.
12	MR. KOBADSA: Is that the 7th?
13	MR. KEHOE: Sorry, It's the 4th, 4th.
14	MS. HILDINGER: 4th.
15	MR. STEINMETZ: It's the 4th?
16	MS. HILDINGER: 4th.
17	MR. STEINMETZ: My bad. Sorry. Sorry.
18	MR. KOBADSA: Provided by provided
19	that the applicant has met all of staff's
20	requirements.
21	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Thank you. And,
22	otherwise refer it back.
23	MR. KOBADSA: Oh yeah, sorry, and refer
24	back to staff for review.

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MR. ROTHFEDER: Second.

MR. BIANCHI: A second, we have a second, okay. Thank you. On the question, all in favor?

MULTIPLE: Aye.

MR. BELL: All opposed.

MR. STEINMETZ: Thank you.

MR. BIANCHI: Thank you. All right, our next application is for the Yeshiva Ohr Hameir for site plan approval and amended special permit for a university, college, or seminary and a wetland permit for a proposed 51,730 square foot dormitory building renovation of staff housing and the enlargement of existing sanctuary located on the existing Yeshiva Ohr Hameir campus at 141 Furnace Woods Road, drawing dated April 18, 2025.

MR. STEINMETZ: Good evening, Mr.

Chairman, members of the board, David Steinmetz

from the law firm of Zarin and Steinmetz

representing Yeshiva Ohr Hameir. I'm joined by

our entire team, Rabbi Yaakov Rothberg from the

yeshiva. our project architect Hannah [phonetic]

Weiss is on screen and we may need to elevate her

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to be able to speak if there are questions for her. Our project engineer Dan Ciarcia and our project wetlands and planning consultant, Steve Marino. We have previously presented to your board. You had asked for a few things at the last meeting, specifically of Hannah and her team. one was to provide some architectural --

MR. BIANCHI: I saw that.

MR. STEINMETZ: -- of the pool, what what was previously referred to as the pool building, which will be a staff housing complex. That has been submitted to the record. You now have that if you have questions on it. The architectural theme is consistent with the architectural theme that they have presented on the other buildings and we're happy to answer any questions relative to that.

The primary focus for us, Mr. Chairman, this evening, you had asked for a visual analysis of the proposed dormitory building, from a number of different vantage points. Hannah, in conjunction with Steve Marino worked on that. We can walk you through that if you wish. Steve is

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here. Steve is, is here and prepared to do that if you wish. I think that the photographs, the computer generated photographs were fairly self-evident. This building, based upon its location and topography of the campus, is set back quite a distance from Furnace Woods Road. It is at a different elevation. We do not think that that building will present a visual impediment for the community.

And most importantly, based upon the frontage, the considerable frontage that the yeshiva has on Furnace Woods Road, there's a wonderful opportunity for significant landscaping. So between Dan Ciarcia and his capability of analyzing grade and how we could work with it, and Steve Marino and his landscape architects, we believe that we can more than adequately, upon approval, have, have a landscape plan that will provide even additional screening, both leaf on and leaf off condition. Happy to walk you through all of that, Hannah's on screen if you want to ask.

MR. BIANCHI: Yeah, maybe, maybe just

2 quickly --

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MR. STEINMETZ: Fine, we shall do so.

MR. BIANCHI: I have some questions.

MR. STEVE MARINO: Good evening, Steve
Marino, Tim Miller Associates. As David
mentioned, we've provided some viewpoints from
furnace Woods Road as well as from Galloway,
across the street there. And we can look at this.
View number one is looking straight into the site
from Galloway, which is the side street just
across and to the south of, of our site entrance.

In the current condition, you actually don't see the buildings at all because in the summer vegetation, most of the site from this vantage point disappears. We've taken a worst case scenario there then in the proposed leaf off, showed the trees that are on the site having lost their leaves and the opportunity to put some evergreens along the frontage there in front of Galloway as, as screening.

That, small, there's a -- you could see a little bit of the top floor of the building from that vantage point. But there's very little

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of the building that that would be seen from that vantage point.

For the second existing view two, I went to the existing site, site access and took photographs from that vantage point into the site where the existing office buildings are located. That block you see there in the front is the existing office building as it would appear after a touchup and, and painting and such after, during the project, as it goes on.

So the first site there just behind, just to the left of that building and in the back there, you can see again, a portion of the roof of the new building and some of the windows of the second -- of the third, second floor, whatever the upper level of the building.

Again, so both leaf on and leaf off conditions, there is a, a, a small change to the view shed but, generally it's a, it's a minor change. And again, there's plenty of opportunity behind that existing fence to add additional screening as necessary.

And I, I'll just say that, you know,

1	July 1, 2025
2	we'll be on at the site walk on the 13th and
3	you'll certainly be able to see what, what things
4	look like during the site walk. We can go to each
5	of these vantage points and just kind of looking
6	into the site during that time.
7	MR. STEINMETZ: And we do intend for the
8	site walk to mark out locations, so that you know
9	exactly
10	MR. BIANCHI: The corners.
11	MR. STEINMETZ: where, where the
12	building corners are
13	MR. BIANCHI: Right.
14	MR. STEINMETZ: and where this is
15	relative to the street.
16	MR. BIANCHI: Yeah, that'd be a good
17	idea.
18	MR. MARTINEZ: I know some of you have
19	walked the site, others I know have probably
20	never been to the campus, so we look forward to
21	having you there.
22	MR. MARINO: I can continue if you like.
23	View number three is further down the road
24	towards Maple. This is further then to the north

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towards Maple. In reality, this is, this is again is a simulation. In reality, that that stone wall that you see there exists and it's actually higher than it looks in the simulation in that you can see less of the, of the campus and less of the buildings from that viewpoint then. So this is really a worst case scenario here. Yeah, and again, you'll see it, when we're in the field, you'll see that there's less of the site that's actually visible from that viewpoint than, than even this represents.

View shed, view number four is further again to the north towards Maple Avenue and is in the area of the, of the existing pump station that's under construction right now. So again, now we are some distance from the campus looking in, and you can see there in the proposed leaf on through, under -- through the trunks of the trees, assuming you mowed everything down and had grass underneath, through the trunks of the trees you see a small portion of the new building there in the distance. Again, it's, it's quite a, now we're moving quite a distance away. We're almost

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a thousand feet away now from where the new building will be.

And the final view is back on Furnace Woods to the south of Galloway. Again, I just want to take a -- get an idea of what it looks like coming down Furnace Woods towards Maple as you look to the left. And certainly there's very little of the site that could be seen from that, that vantage point, especially as you're driving by in a car. You'd have to be looking straight out to your left to see anything. And, from that vantage point, very little of the site is visible.

Again, and once we, once we get out there on the, on the 13th, I'm happy to show you these vantage points and, and you can judge for yourself what it looks like.

MR. STEINMETZ: With regard to the wetlands, which, you, you heard briefly from Chris and Steve during the work session, we'd be delighted if, you all could get Mr. Jaehnig's attention and possibly get him out there before the site inspection. We, we respect Paul. We know

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Paul, we've worked with Paul on other matters.

I'm sure this is a busy time of year, but if

staff could try to help us get in touch with him

and maybe stress the importance of getting some

contact, Steve is ready to meet with him out in

the field and get him out there. Having him do so

in the next 12 days makes an awful lot of sense.

MR. MARINO: I will say one thing. In Paul's defense, as, as, as Chris knows, he had suggested possibly meeting out there yesterday morning at 10:00 o'clock, but unfortunately I wasn't available to do that site walk. So we're still trying to coordinate that. But I'm sure, Paul and I have visited a number of sites, and I'm sure we can get that one.

MR. STEINMETZ: So, what we are asking here is, that you confirm your lead agency status, that you schedule the site inspection.

And I want to speak to the public hearing issue for one second and there's a specific reason.

October is a month with a considerable number of religious holidays. The, the night of the public hearing or the night of the planning board

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2 meeting in October would be a night that the Yeshiva would not be able to be on regardless. So 3 4 I'm asking you to consider the following. If your 5 board thinks that you're going to conduct two sessions of a public hearing on this matter, then 6 7 I would ask you to consider scheduling it for September and if you need the second session, 8 9 there will be a second session in November. But 10 if we don't schedule tonight, and I come back 11 here in September and I ask you to schedule, you 12 will not be able to schedule until November, 13 which then kicks us over to December. So again, I 14 mean, no disrespect, I totally get scheduling. 15 But you don't meet in August and we believe we 16 will be ready to open a public hearing in September. And as much as I'd love you to tell me 17 18 tonight, David, don't worry, we're going to do 19 one session of public hearing because we kind of 20 already reviewed this in the past, albeit it's a 21 slight, it's an improved design. If you think 22 you're convening two sessions, then I would ask 2.3 you to take that into account for the sake of 24 efficiency and economy and conduct in September

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1	July 1, 2025
2	and November. Thank you.
3	MR. BIANCHI: I think that's important.
4	You said that. Assuming, you know, one public
5	hearing is enough, we don't know.
6	MR. STEINMETZ: I know that.
7	MR. BIANCHI: And we don't know who's
8	going to be here that's from the public that is
9	to speak. We don't know what issues they may
10	bring up.
11	MR. STEINMETZ: I totally understand
12	that.
13	MR. BIANCHI: And it may very well carry
14	into November.
15	MR. STEINMETZ: Yeah.
16	MR. BIANCHI: Which I know you didn't
17	like, but
18	MR. STEINMETZ: But if it is, if that's
19	what happens, that's what happens.
20	MR. BIANCHI: I'm not sure. I don't know
21	from the staff viewpoint, I don't know if they'll
22	be ready.
23	MR. MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM: From staff, I
24	do think, we think the next three are, they're

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July 1, 2025

complex applications, they just have a lot going
on. There's not quite ready for --

MR. BIANCHI: Okay.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: -- public hearings, the next three.

MR. BIANCHI: All right. Well, there's your answer then. I, I don't think we are going to be ready for it, as much as you'd like us to be. But I do have a question on the views. The leaf off views are almost university, they're, they're pretty, I mean the leaf on is fine because you don't see anything because of the trees, but they're deciduous trees. But, you said something about a site plan with landscaping that's going to be developed.

MR. MARINO: That'll be developed.

MR. BIANCHI: Will there be evergreen trees or anything that's more substantial in the wintertime to sort of hide?

MR. MARINO: One of the things I think you'll all find when we do go out there for the site walk is that try as we might, we weren't able to get all of the trees that actually exist

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on the property now in these views because some of that has to be taken off the map in order to see the buildings beyond. And then we add trees back on top of that. Again, you'll see when we're out there, there are many more existing trunks and shrubs underneath and things going on out there that will make it harder. But certainly, we in -- before the September meeting, we will certainly have a landscape plan that considers existing trees and where we can place evergreens and evergreen shrubs as well, in certain strategic locations to block certain views.

MR. BIANCHI: Okay.

MR. MARINO: Or to soften certain views,
I shouldn't say block, but --

MR. STEINMETZ: It sounds like we have five months to work on landscaping together.

MR. BIANCHI: Yeah, yeah, definitely. Okay.

MR. STEINMETZ: Thank you.

MR. BIANCHI: I have another issue to bring up. Are there any other questions on this particular part of the application? At the last

1 July 1, 2025 2 meeting, I want to bring up the issue of student 3 population. Mm-hmm. 4 MR. STEINMETZ: 5 MR. BIANCHI: Because on the April 24th memo from you, David, you mentioned that the 6 7 yeshiva will no longer be, I'm quoting here, yeshiva will no longer be governed by a student 8 9 cap of 225 and wishes to modify condition four to 20-12 resolution. 10 11 MR. STEINMETZ: That's correct. 12 MR. BIANCHI: What is the cap that 13 you're looking at now? What is the population of 14 -- because this, this was a, if you, I know you recall this, but this was a lot of discussion on 15 this at the previous --16 17 MR. STEINMETZ: I understand that. And 18 that was 15 years ago with a failing septic 19 system. 20 MR. BIANCHI: Right. 21 MR. STEINMETZ: On a site that had 22 literally decades of a septic system that may 2.3 maybe wasn't performing to its optimal

capability. In addition, there were a host of

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issues coming at the yeshiva at that time when we were trying to get up to a resolution for the special permit. My, my position, Mr. Chairman and members of the board, both practically and legally, is that there is A, no need for a cap and B, there is no legal basis for a cap. The legal basis for a cap on occupancy on this property is no different from the legal basis on a cap on occupancy at, what's it called? Bell -- What, what's the middle school down the block? The Blue Mountain Middle School down the block.

MR. BIANCHI: Yeah.

MR. STEINMETZ: You have state law that regulates occupancy. How many people can be in this room, how many people can be in the gymnasium at that school down the block from us, so we have stated rather clearly, and I believe the town attorney's office has been well aware of my position on this for probably a year. And I don't believe I have been met with any disagreement as a matter of law. We will comply with all applicable state building fire and dormitory regulations.

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So, despite that, your, your staff has asked us how many students do we think are going to be there. It, it can't handle based upon what's available, probably more than three to 320. I have put that in writing that is in front of your board already. So this, Mr. Chairman, I, I would urge you in, in, in the spirit of cooperation and compliance with the law that we move past this issue.

MR. BIANCHI: Okay, well I bring it up because it was a topic of discussion. Was it 15 years ago?

MR. STEINMETZ: It was,

MR. BIANCHI: I can't believe it. It was a topic of discussion from the public as well.

MR. STEINMETZ: I know.

MR. BIANCHI: And I think it impacted -- well not it impacted, but it concerned traffic.

MR. STEINMETZ: There's no traffic and you know that

MR. BIANCHI: There's minimal traffic. I agree. But I mean, those are the issues that were brought up and that's why I say we wanted a

1	July 1, 2025
2	public hearing in September and you know, maybe
3	it'll come again and come up again from the
4	public.
5	MR. STEINMETZ: Tom, I'll be frank with
6	you, 15 years ago, while I might not have, while
7	I might have been younger, I wasn't less, I
8	wasn't more foolish. The only reason that I
9	allowed my client to agree to that cap was
10	because we had a failing septic system that we
11	were under a consent order with the Westchester
12	County Department of Health. And I wanted to
13	cooperate with the town and achieve a fair and
14	amicable special permit. This time, no wiser,
15	just pragmatic, you can't do it.
16	MR. BIANCHI: Can't do what?
17	MR. STEINMETZ: Cap the number of
18	students in this special permit resolution.
19	MR. BIANCHI: But, but there are, there
20	are agencies that do
21	MR. STEINMETZ: Absolutely
22	MR. BIANCHI: that kind of thing.
23	MR. STEINMETZ: And, and, and we know
24	that. It's, it, it's sort of a matter of

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principle at this time around. You have every right to review the application. It's, this is going to be such a vast improvement for the town of Cortlandt and for the Yeshiva property and for its neighbors, that for us to be delaying this is, is unfortunate in any way. And I'm not saying you are going to delay it, but finally gang, finally John Bernard's request, and I told you this, but I'm going to keep doing it if you keep doing that, John Bernard said to me before I walked out that door, David, the sewage treatment plant with a surface discharge, what a shame, you've got to try to get a sewer here. And Yaakov and I walked out the door and we spent the last 15 years wandering and trying to come up with the point where we could actually get a sewer line.

It doesn't just benefit Yeshiva Ohr
Hameir, it benefits 135 other properties in the
town of Cortlandt. Please, if you want to say
thank you, you can say thank you. We've been
working in cooperation with the town. This is
finally the right outcome.

MR. BIANCHI: I, I agree with that. I

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mean the, the sewer has to be installed and, and operable. What you have now is not sustainable.

Okay, I, I just wanted to bring that up. Oh, yes?

MR. YAAKOV ROTHBERG: Hi, Rabbi
Rothberg, Yaakov Rothberg from the yeshiva. I
just want to clarify something. When it comes to
student cap, we're talking about in traffic. In
the last go around 15 years ago, 16 years ago,
more like 19 years ago is when it started, we
were talking about 225 student cap plus 75 staff
members. That would be a total of 300. We are
talking now that possibly, you know, not likely,
but possibly, between three and 320 students,
staff members around 30. So the whole, we're
talking about 300 to 350, not 225 to 350. I just
want to clarify that. I think this is an

As far as traffic goes, whether we have more students, actually it'll be less traffic in terms of vehicular traffic. Students do not have cars. They're not allowed to have cars. And if the three staff members move on premises, then that's less traffic going back and forth out of

important point to clarify.

1 July 1, 2025 2 the campus from the already very few cars that come in and out of there a day. 3 4 So I just think that would be, that's 5 important for the board to understand and for staff to understand, that we're not asking for 6 anything onerous at all. Thank you very much. 7 MR. BIANCHI: All right. Thank you. 8 9 MR. STEINMETZ: We have nothing further, 10 Mr. Chairman, unless you have questions. 11 MR. BIANCHI: Okay. So I, I'm not sure 12 what the board wants to think about when we get 13 to the resolution on this, whether there needs to 14 be, and I won't call it a cap, but some kind of 15 an idea of what the student population is going 16 to be based on state regulations and space and 17 all that stuff. But --18 MR. STEINMETZ: I've offered --19 MR. BIANCHI: -- I'll leave that up to 20 the board. 21 MR. STEINMETZ: -- that and just so the 22 whole board is clear and so the chair is clear, I 2.3 have specifically offered up that language --

MR. BIANCHI: I saw that, yes.

1 July 1, 2025 2 MR. STEINMETZ: -- already in writing twice that we must, the yeshiva must comply with 3 4 all applicable state requirements regarding occupancy. That's fire code, building code and 5 state dormitory authority. No question about it. 6 7 Nobody's trying to do anything other than that. MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Thank you. Any 8 9 questions or comments from board members on any 10 of these issues? Okay. 11 MR. ROTHFEDER: I would just add --MR. BIANCHI: Yeah? 12 MR. ROTHFEDER: -- that it, it, it is 13 14 accurate to say though that what we went through 15 back then was so tied into that septic system 16 and, and the problems that it was having. And so the, you know, the neighbors were really 17 18 concerned right --19 MR. BIANCHI: Right.

> MR. ROTHFEDER: -- about that. And that is not the issue now.

> > MR. STEINMETZ: Thank You.

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MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Thank you. All right, Nora?

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	Page 6
1	July 1, 2025
2	MS. HILDINGER: Okay. I'd like to make a
3	motion to declare the town of Cortlandt planning
4	board lead agent and to schedule a site visit for
5	Sunday, July 13th.
6	MR. BIANCHI: And time will be
7	determined, to be determined?
8	MR. STEINMETZ: You'll let us know the
9	time and the order?
10	MR. KEHOE: To be determined.
11	MR. BIANCHI: Yeah. Okay.
12	MR. MCKINLEY: Second.
13	MR. BIANCHI: Okay, we have a second.
14	And on the question, all in favor?
15	MULTIPLE: Aye.
16	MR. BIANCHI: All opposed?
17	MR. STEINMETZ: Thank you.
18	MR. BIANCHI: Thank you. Our next item
19	is, let's see, application of BEB Capital, LLC
20	for property of Skyview/Westview, LLC and the
21	Eastview/Southview, LLC for site plan approval, a
22	residential reuse special permit, and for tree

removal and steep slopes permits for a proposed

70-unit residential development, located on East

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Main Street, Route 6, Regina Avenue and Lexington Avenue, drawings latest dated May 22, 2025.

MR. STEINMETZ: Good evening, Mr.

Chairman, members of the board. David Steinmetz

from the law firm of Zarin and Steinmetz here

representing BEB Capital. I'm joined by Matt

Steinberg from DTS Provident Engineering and

Planning. We are here largely to nail down the

scheduling of the site inspection. And I want to

add one issue. We have discussed it with your

board. We have discussed it with the town board

and staff raised it again. And that is the issue

of, ultimate, ultimate relocation of folks or

residents that are there onsite.

I am pleased to tell you that today

finally, we were able to hear back from the new

CEO of the Housing Action Council. My client and

our team have been engaged with HAC, Housing

Action Council and Rose Noonan once the issue was

raised. Unfortunately, Ms. Noonan, who many of us

know from a lot of different projects throughout

the county, unfortunately passed away. Her

replacement has now been named, Chance Mullen

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from Pelham has now been selected as the CEO of HAC. We have a meeting scheduled with him and he will be way out in front of this issue with us.

I say way out in front because we don't have approval, we don't have a building permit, we don't have a demo permit. Nobody needs to be replaced or relocated, and I don't want the town to create an issue where there is none presently. However, we wanted you to all know and staff to know we are not ignoring that issue. We're on top of it. We would like to do the site inspection.

MR. BIANCHI: Right.

MR. STEINMETZ: Matt and our team are, are ready to get the site marked out. I think, I know you heard during the work session that there was a staff level technical discussion last week. Your professionals advised our team of some specific areas of concern that we know we need to focus on in terms of grading slopes, retaining walls. We'll be ready for that at the site inspection.

MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Yeah, I'm glad you took action on the current residents because --

1	July 1, 2025
2	MR. STEINMETZ: Yean, so am I.
3	MR. BIANCHI: Westchester County made
4	a big point on that. Okay, comments, questions
5	from the board on, on this? This is a pretty big
6	development, so I think we need to see this very
7	closely. And we've gotten comments from LaBella
8	on the traffic study. Can, can that be summarized
9	just quickly? Can you summarize that just
10	MR. CHRIS LAPINE: No. Sorry, Mr. Chair,
11	I wasn't prepared for that.
12	MR. BIANCHI: All right.
13	MR. CUNNINGHAM: We can bring the
14	traffic consultant to the next meeting if you
15	would like.
16	MR. BIANCHI: Yeah, maybe that's a good
17	idea. I
18	MR. KEHOE: Well, I do believe though
19	that they, that Carlito Holt, who's the
20	applicant's traffic consultant
21	MR. BIANCHI: Right.
22	MR. KEHOE: would need to respond to
23	LaBella's comments, which I'm sure he's working
24	on. And once that response comes in, we'll have

1 July 1, 2025 2 our traffic person look at it. It's been a while, but if you recall, you know, at one of your 3 meetings you get both of the traffic people here 4 5 and get an idea what they're talking about. I don't know if that'll necessarily happen in 6 7 September, but it could. MR. MATT STEINBERG: That's correct. So 8 9 Matt Steinberg with DTS Provident. 10 MR. BIANCHI: At some point, that would 11 be a good thing to do actually. 12 MR. STEINBERG: Certainly, yes. And we 13 also, just so that the board knows, we, we also 14 spoke with DOT. We had preliminary discussions 15 with DOT and they provided some comments. So 16 between LaBella's and DOT, we're, we're going to 17 be revising that traffic report. 18 MR. BIANCHI: Okay. 19 MR. STEINMETZ: If you want us to have, 20 Carlito or one of the traffic folks at the

make sure they are here.

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MR. BIANCHI: Well, provided that we've had a chance to look at it, our consultant has

September meeting, just let us know and we will

	Page /
1	July 1, 2025
2	looked at it already by September. Will that be
3	the case?
4	MR. KEHOE: Yeah, I think that'd be
5	okay.
6	MR. BIANCHI: So, yes.
7	MR. STEINMETZ: Good. Okay.
8	MR. BIANCHI: And
9	MR. KEHOE: The other, the other thing
10	to be aware of, I guess at the site inspection,
11	we would probably start on like Regina and then
12	get in our cars and drive around to Lexington,
13	because you can't really walk between the two.
14	MR. BIANCHI: It's a long walk.
15	MR. STEINMETZ: We'll talk between now
16	and then and do logistics of the day, but that's
17	fine, that makes sense.
18	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Aside from the site
19	visit, any other comments, questions from the
20	board on this?
21	MR. STEINMETZ: Lead agency also.
22	MR. BIANCHI: And lead agency, right.
23	Okay. We'll schedule that. And I think I had one
24	other question, but I, oh does this need to be

	Dago 1
1	Page 7 July 1, 2025
2	looked at by architectural review or
3	MR. KEHOE: Yeah, it will. It will. Yep.
4	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. I'll turn it over to
5	Peter.
6	MR. MCKINLEY: Sure. I'd like to move,
7	we make a motion to declare that the planning
8	board will be lead agent for PB 2025-8 of BEB
9	Capital and we will schedule a site visit for
10	Sunday, July 13th, time to be given, located on
11	East Main Street, Route 6.
12	MR. BIANCHI: Thank you. On the
13	question, all in favor?
14	MR. ROTHFEDER: You need a second.
15	MR. BIANCHI: Oh wait, sorry.
16	MR. ROTHFEDER: Second.
17	MR. BIANCHI: We got a second. On the
18	question. All in favor?
19	MULTIPLE: Aye.
20	MR. BIANCHI: All opposed? Okay. Site
21	visits scheduled.
22	MR. STEINMETZ: Thank you very much.
23	MR. BIANCHI: And lead agency, done.
24	All right, our final application is for VS

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Construction Corp. for site plan approval and tree wetland and steep slope permits for a proposed 97,700 square foot assisted living facility located in the medical oriented district, MOD at 2003 Crompond Road, drawings latest revised May 22, 2025.

MR. STEINMETZ: Good evening, Mr. Chairman, members of the board. David Steinmetz from the law firm of Zarin and Steinmetz here this evening, representing VS Construction in connection with the assisted, independent and memory care component of the MOD and the Evergreen Manor project. I'm joined this evening by both Valerio and Armando Santucci from VS and I'm pleased that I'm joined on screen by Eric Gardner from Benchmark Senior Living. And here with us this evening is Michael Stein from Stein Troost Architects. Mike is Benchmark's project architect and has at least begun to do some of the architectural studies. And we have shared, some of the architectural information.

I'll take one step back that you've already previously heard. This site and this

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project, and I appreciate staff mentioning this at the work session has already been through the SEQR process, and resulted ultimately in a findings statement that supported the adoption of the MOD and acknowledged there is no significant adverse environmental impact associated with this proposed use on the property in this particular location.

You all and staff made us rather mindful of the fact that this assisted living building,

I'll refer to it as the assisted living building,

is the structure associated with the Evergreen

Manor project that is closest to 202. And there

was some concern expressed.

Thankfully, both, and I should say I guess Matt, Matt Steinberg is also still here,
DTS Provident, our project engineers and
planners. Matt and his team, in conjunction with
Mike and his, were able to work with Benchmark
and the Santuccis to reorient the building, push
it further back into the property. I believe it's
20 feet, you'll hear about that momentarily.

And we simply asked Michael to show up

this evening to just describe the building, its architecture, its orientation, sort of how it works and how he was able to bring it further back. We believe that that movement together with the landscaping that Matt and his firm will be able to recommend be installed within the property line will more than satisfactorily mitigate the visual impact. Again, the visual impact was already studied under SEQR, but we're still mindful that during the site plan review we need to get into that with a little bit of greater specificity. So I'm going to turn it over to Mike to just briefly walk through some of the architectural slides and information.

MR. MICHAEL STEIN: Thank you. Good evening. For the record, my name is Michael Stein. I'm a registered professional architect and principal of the firm of Stein Troost. We are located in Norwalk, Connecticut. I'd like to start by talking a little bit about the site. As you know, the site has a significant grade change from the, from the northwest corner at the entry up to the southeast corner of the property. To

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abide by good planning, we terrace the site, so there's a, there's a wall at the, at, at the setback line. Our building steps up the site. A previous plan had the located the building basically on the 30 foot setback. This building now is 45 to 50 feet off of the property line.

And while technically, it is a three story building, three-quarters of the perimeter of the building is really only two stories.

There's only one small section that is at the southwest corner. And, and you can see in the rendering, the dark brown portion is that, is the third floor, you know, peeking out from under the or above the, the retaining wall. Fully a third of the elevation on Crompond is two-story structure.

The other benefits of this revised plan, we relocated the service entry to the backside of the building, so it's no longer visible from, from the entry. And we were able to create four really well sized, outdoor amenity spaces for the residents. There's two, one is within the courtyard of the building. There's another on

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that low level that's the memory care garden. And then on the upper level to the, to the left of the entrance is the large -- yeah, to the, on the left of this rendering, there's a large green flat area for recreational activities. And then around the dining room, there's also the potential for outdoor dining and, you know, well landscaped views from within the building.

So this building is inspired by early 20th Century shingle style resort hotel. All of our designs are unique to each property. We like to say that we are regionally inspired and very site specific in our work. We don't have prototypes or cookie cutter approach. Each building is unique to the, to the property that it's on.

Like I said, it's predominantly a, a two story building, but there is a third story poking out. The building is 96,850 square feet. It's a little smaller than in your, in your description. There are 118 beds within 100 units, which is generally the sweet spot for our assisted living and memory care facilities.

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So the lowest level of the building, if we go to that plan. All right, so the lowest level of the building is the memory care unit.

MS. HEATHER LAVARNWAY: Are you looking for the floor plans?

MR. STEIN: Yeah, the floor plans, yeah. Okay. Do you have them?

MS. LAVARNWAY: I'm sure I do somewhere. Bear with me. Hang on a second.

MR. STEIN: It's quite all right, you, you don't have to -- I mean, it's generally speaking, the lowest level of this building is the memory care unit. It's a secured unit. It, it is 32 beds. Its common areas include a large dining room, a living room, an activity space, a beauty parlor, and in the corridor -- and in those knuckles on the corridors, those are sort of informal sitting areas.

The second level, which is the main entry level of the building has 35 assisted living beds and a large living room, dining room, a library, a pub, multipurpose room, and again, some informal lounge areas. The top level of the

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building, the third floor has 51 assisted living beds and a wellness center and what Benchmark calls their dinner party room.

The wellness center includes a yoga dance studio, a fitness room, two therapy rooms, a nursing office, and the beauty parlor for the assisted living residents.

So the exterior materials, I just brought a sample, the exterior materials of the building are three types of fiber cement siding. The upper band of the building has is a board and batten pattern. The middle band is a shingle pattern. And in the portion of the, of the lowest level that you can see, it's a clapboard in a darker color. The roofing is fiberglass roofing shingles, the porches have standing seams, steel ropes. And there's stone veneer on the dining room and on certain pieces of the lowest level. That pretty much covers it and I'm happy to answer any of your questions.

MR. STEINMETZ: One, just one thing I want to add. Mr. Gardner, who I, as I, as I said is on screen if we need him, did make it quite

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clear to me -- he, unfortunately is based, out of the Boston area. So I told him unnecessary to be here. He previously appeared in front of your board. What, what Mike and his team have worked on is certainly, by no means final. I don't want to say it's preliminary because as you can see, a considerable amount of time, attention and, and funding has gone into the architectural studies.

However, particularly things inside the building have not been finally located. Eric, Eric implored me to understand that the, the floor plans are not fully baked. There's a lot of time to, to tweak things internally. For your purposes, we really did want to have the building, its orientation, essentially its footprint and parking area and in, and in particular its location on the site. Since that was one of the primary comments that we did get from the board and from staff, a considerable amount of time was spent pushing that building back from 202.

We're happy to answer any questions. We have received comments, from town staff. Matt and

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DTS have spent a great deal of time beginning to, respond to all of that. We are anxious to, to keep this project moving forward.

It is a long time coming and, I would be remiss particularly with the Mr. Santucci and Mandy Santucci sitting behind me if I didn't ask for you to consider, scheduling a public hearing for the September meeting with the same caveat that we understand, that it may not be able to be conducted and you might pull the plug on it. But we have spent a great deal of time working with staff, working as a team. And, this is a complicated project, given the zoning and some of the things that are contained within the zoning and the sequencing that the town has asked us to endeavor to comply with. So getting the assisted living building moving first has always been of paramount concern to the town board and we would like to try to fulfill that.

MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Thank you. Comments, questions on the board?

MR. KOBADSA: I just have one. If the plat still needs to be approved and is not signed

1	July 1, 2025
2	off on, does it make sense for this to go for a
3	public hearing basically?
4	MR. CUNNINGHAM: They're not necessarily
5	related. I mean, I would think, I would think at
6	some point they would want to finish up the
7	subdivision. I understand your point with that.
8	But it one doesn't necessarily
9	MR. KOBADSA: One's not before the
10	other.
11	MR. CUNNINGHAM: With one hanging out
12	there doesn't mean that you can't have the public
13	hearing on the other.
14	MR. STEINMETZ: And Kevin, my, I
15	appreciate
16	MR. KOBADSA: That's all I'm asking. I'm
17	just wondering if those two
18	MR. STEINMETZ: We can't ask for an
19	approval until that lot is created. We know that
20	and I appreciate
21	MR. KOBADSA: No, no, yeah, yeah, yeah.
22	I'm just wondering generally if it, if one needs
23	to come before the other, so, no.
24	MR. BIANCHI: Okay. Any other questions

1 July 1, 2025 2 on the board? For the site visit, we will schedule. Again, we would like some demarcation 3 4 showing --5 MR. STEINMETZ: We will, we will get as 6 much done. Mandy, we need to get building 7 corners, parking areas, obviously giving you a sense of the 100-foot setback from Tamarack, the 8 9 Tamarack lots, which we're, we're mindful of. 10 MR. KEHOE: Could you also try to give 11 us a, a sense, I think you were involved in the 12 hotel. I mean, we don't need to go all the way to 13 a balloon test necessarily, but to get an idea of 14 the height of that retaining wall on Route 202? 15 MR. STEINMETZ: Yeah, I think we could, 16 should be able --17 MR. KEHOE: That might be a pole or 18 something like that. 19 MR. STEINMETZ: I would think that we 20 should be able to explain that while, while, 21 while we're out there. 22 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I think it's beyond an 2.3 explanation. I think what he's asking for is some sort of physical object showing how high the 24

1	July 1, 2025
2	retaining wall is going to be. It's a specific,
3	it's a specific ask.
4	MR. STEINMETZ: Okay. Mandy?
5	MR. MANDY SANTUCCI: Yeah.
6	MR. STEINMETZ: Got it.
7	MR. BIANCHI: Okay.
8	MR. SANTUCCI: You can show him right in
9	the front.
10	MR. STEINMETZ: The one we're looking at
11	in the photograph. Michael.
12	MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yeah, the retaining,
13	yeah.
14	MR. STEINMETZ: Got it. Just so I'm
15	clear, thank you for making sure I was clear.
16	MR. BIANCHI: On the question of the
17	public hearing, what's the staff's view on that?
18	Are you going to be ready at this point or
19	there's a lot to do on this one.
20	MR. KEHOE: Premature.
21	MR. BIANCHI: Excuse me?
22	MR. KEHOE: I think it's premature.
23	MR. BIANCHI: Premature.
24	MR. KEHOE: I mean, you know, we just

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got another review memo, you know, from Chris
Lapine. Now on this one we had a review memo as I
mentioned, and, and they did respond to it. And
then Chris Lapine had a review memo. Chris Lapine
has generated a second review memo. There are,
there, there are a lot of details that still need
to be worked out.

MR. STEINMETZ: And, and again, at, at, at the risk of, of overstaying and overstating the point. And it's unfortunate that I'm on for several things that are all asking for something similar, but it is the same unfortunate reality. We have 60 days from -- more than 60 days from today to answer Chris's second detailed memo. The good news is Chris is in the weeds on, you know, literally and figuratively. We're working on all of that. We, we will work all summer. We have all of July and all of August until the fourth day of September. And again, all I'm trying to do Mr. Chairman and members of the board is what the town board told me literally years ago, which is that the assisted living needed to advance first. I'm just trying to do that.

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MR. BIANCHI: Well, I, you know, for
one, I'd like to really see the site more,
actually see the site period. I think we had one
site visit a long time ago. And that will
probably raise some other comments or questions
from board members. And given that August and
July is the time where a lot of people are away,
I mean, I don't want to overload staff with all
of this work and get it ready for something that
may not be advisable to do so soon. So I have to
take what they say and stand with.

MR. STEINMETZ: I don't feel like they were as definitive on this one as they might have been on some of the others, it's not clear to me.

MR. BIANCHI: Well, he said premature. I think that's pretty definitive. So I think we're going to not do the site, I'm sorry, not do the public hearing unfortunately for you.

MR. STEINMETZ: I appreciate your considering the request, thank you.

MR. BIANCHI: But thank you for asking. Okay. So I'll turn it over to Jeff.

MR. ROTHFEDER: I move that we set a

1	July 1, 2025
2	site visit for July 13th and refer it back to
3	staff.
4	MR. BIANCHI: Thank you, a second
5	please.
6	MS. HILDINGER: Second.
7	MR. MCKINLEY: Second.
8	MR. BIANCHI: On the question. All in
9	favor?
10	MULTIPLE: Aye.
11	MR. BIANCHI: All opposed?
12	MR. STEINMETZ: Thank you all. See you
13	on the 13th, I appreciate your time and your
14	patience tonight.
15	MR. BIANCHI: Have a good summer.
16	MR. STEINMETZ: Thank you.
17	MR. KOBADSA: The time is 7:53, the
18	meeting's adjourned.
19	MR. BIANCHI: Thank you.
20	(The public board meeting concluded at 7:53 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATE OF ACCURACY

I, Claudia Marques, certify that the foregoing transcript of the Board meeting of the Town of Cortlandt on July 1, 2025 was prepared using the required transcription equipment and is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Certified By

Claudia Marques

Date: July 22, 2025

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