

#### HAND DELIVERED & VIA EMAIL

Phyllis Eldridge, Chair Portsmouth Zoning Board of Adjustment ("ZBA") 1 Junkins Ave Portsmouth, NH 03801

Re: 635 Sagamore Development, LLC, Owner/Applicant "635" Project Location: 635 Sagamore Avenue Tax Map 222, Lot 19 General Residence A (GRA Zone)

Dear Ms. Eldridge and Zoning Board Members:

On behalf of the abutters of 635 Sagamore Ave. ("Abutters") please accept this letter as a request for reconsideration of the May 16<sup>th</sup> 2023 vote by the ZBA approving (6-0) the Applicant's Request for variance. Request For Rehearing of the earlier approval to be considered by the ZBA for the following reasons:

- The current application does not meet the Unnecessary Hardship criteria in the applicant's proposal of 4 single family homes where one is permitted. The claimed Unnecessary Hardship is not achieved based on the applicant's arguments. See relevant rationale below.
- The applicant and the ZBA were using inaccurate numbers in their calculations regarding comparative projects. Tax records and association documentation clearly state the difference. (Exhibit 1.).
- The Spirit of the Ordinance is Not Observed, and it is Contrary to the public interest most especially for the direct Sagamore Ave abutters. See reasons below.

#### **EXHIBITS**

Portsmouth tax record data and association documents

#### HISTORY/REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Briefly, the history of this matter is that 635, has been on and off the ZBA's agenda for more than a year. Initially with a very unreasonable request for five freestanding houses on 1.94 acres. They withdrew the original application and reapplied stating they reduced the project 20% which is true only in building count. The two homes that replace three of five in the original plan are larger in size – hence not a 20% reduction. 635 held an onsite meeting with Sagamore Ave residents including Tidewatch (TW) residents. In that meeting, no one denied that a residential use (more conforming use) of the property would not be good for abutters as well as the general public. Only one attendee did not leave with major concerns regarding the placement, density, and safety of the project.

In the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting all the variance criteria were duly considered and we respect and appreciate the board's efforts. Again, we respectfully request the board reconsider their decision on 635 regarding;

The Spirit of the Ordinance and Public Interest. If the ZBA were to consider this application from the perspective of the Sagamore Ave abutters only and not the TW neighbors, Mr. Mannel's statements would be very relevant. I paraphrase 'Looking at the project when I first saw it, I did not think it was feasible.' and 'If TideWatch wasn't there this would not fly at all'. For the immediate abutters on Sagamore Ave, three of which are in the opposition documentation and two of whom were at the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, this project clearly flies in the face of the Spirit of the Ordinance and for sure changes the Essential Character of the Locality.

The Proposed Development Offends the Spirit of the Ordinance and Is Not Consonant with the Public Interest.

These factors are generally considered jointly. See Farrar v. City of Keene, 158 N.H.

684, 691 (2009). A project violates these tests if it "alters the essential character of the neighborhood" or "would threaten the public health, safety, or welfare." *Id.* The instant petition does both.

The density and layout of the Proposed Development clash with the neighborhood's character. Although Applicant contends otherwise, Tidewatch and the Sagamore Court apartment buildings are not suitable comparators. They are too dissimilar from the Proposed Development. To start, Sagamore Court is in the Garden Apartment/ Mobile Home Park zone, which is significantly more density tolerant than the SRA zone. See Ordinance, § 10.410.

Additionally, apartment buildings and condominiums have a rich density per building, which results in a site layout materially different from Applicant's *de facto* cluster development. Tidewatch may have 117 units on± 59.53 acres, but it only has 44 residential buildings. This creates an open, uncrowded layout with one freestanding building per ±1.35 acres, which is commensurate with the spirit of§§ 10.513 and 10.521 and the objectives of a single residence zone. The Proposed Development, on the other hand, seeks to establish one freestanding building per 21,198 square feet or approximately 1/4 acre (of note, the buildings will be more dense in actuality). While it is true that the Property borders the more lenient SRB zone, proximity to another zoning district does not provide license to flaunt the density requirements of the SRA zone. Indeed, if border properties could regularly partake in the privileges of neighboring zones, zoning boundaries would become illusory. Slowly, the benefits of the favorable zone would spread and alter the essential character of each neighborhood.

Perhaps most significantly, none of the properties across Sagamore Ave., which begins the SRB zone, have density comparable to the Proposed Development.

The spacing between each unit is equally problematic. Applicant heralds the distances between buildings as "voluntary setbacks" like those imposed by the Ordinance but, in reality, the setbacks are significantly shorter than what the SRA zone imposes. The SRA zone requires 20 feet of side yard (or setback) on each lot. See Ordinance, § 10.521. This results in each freestanding building having at least 40 feet of space between them. Applicant's proposal is half that distance. All of the freestanding buildings will be closely clustered, negating the benefit and promise of a single-family residence zone, like SRA. No other structures in the area are so closely grouped.

Simply put, squeezing four single-family homes onto  $a\pm 1.94$ -acre lot is antithetical to the neighborhood's character and is generally bad for the quality of life enjoyed in the area.

Regarding Unnecessary Hardship, there were several members of the board that stated they either did not see the hardship or were struggling with seeing an unnecessary hardship with the current proposal. The applicant did not present a clear argument for Unnecessary Hardship for the board to consider nor did they meet the criteria required to demonstrate unnecessary hardship. As an example, when Vice Chair Margeson asked attorney Phoenix '…is Walker your main argument' his reply was "Whatever you guys are convinced by is my main argument". Importantly, Walker vs City of Manchester was overturned. Further, the applicant is not exactly accurate regarding the unique characteristics of the property related to surrounding properties. There are in fact similar properties in the zone and nearby as Vice Chair Margeson pointed out in the meeting and is documented below. Related to several members of the board discussing hardship – it could clearly be removed by constructing one or two freestanding dwellings. See other related reasons below. Related to the term "reasonable" in the variance criteria, one or two free standing dwellings could be considered reasonable. Four, placed on such a small portion of the lot (required by the lot's make up) standing very close to the road and neighbors is unreasonable.

#### Applicant Has Not Demonstrated an Unnecessary Hardship.

A nonconforming use is not the type of special feature that justifies a variance.

Nonconforming uses are largely seen as a benefit, not a burden, to landowners. Additionally, Applicant can abandon its nonconforming use at any time and alleviate the alleged encumbrance. Something which can so easily be dispensed with hardly qualifies as a hardship. A nonconforming use qualifies as a hardship only when the applicant requests a variance integral to the nonconforming use. A nonconforming landscape depot, for example, may use its nonconformity when seeking relief from residential restrictions. Here, Applicant's nonconformity of being a business in a residential zone is immaterial to the proposed residential development. It does not inhibit Applicant from developing a residential home in conformance with the Ordinance or render the Ordinance's purpose inapposite. RSA 674:33, I(l)(b)(l).

Applicant's reliance on other densely developed parcels in the area fares no better. A condition that affects an entire area is not a "special condition" on the property but rather a common denominator for every property. The case cited by Applicant, *Walker v. City of Manchester*, 107 N.H. 382 (1966), was overturned when the legislature amended the unnecessary hardship standard in RSA 674:33. The statute unequivocally provides that the subject property's special conditions must "distinguish it from other properties in the area." *See* RSA 674:33, I(E) (b)(l). A feature that affects every property in the area hardly qualifies. Additionally, Applicant, when assessing the density of other properties, is comparing apples and oranges. *See infra* § ii.

Applicant also relies on the size of its Property. However, the Property is not so disproportionately large that it creates an unnecessary hardship. Applicant pins the Property at

 $\pm$  1.94 acres. Property sizes in the area vary, but many are comparable to the Property. For example, Tax Map 222, Lot 17 is  $\pm$ .86 acres; Tax Map 222, Lot 14-1 is  $\pm$ 1.51 acres; Tax Map 222, Lot 12 is  $\pm$ 1.7 acres; Tax Map 222, Lot 11 is  $\pm$ 1.48 acres Tax Map 223, Lot 36 is  $\pm$ 1.310 acres; Tax Map 223, Lot 13 is  $\pm$ 1.030 acres; Tax Map 223, Lot 18 is  $\pm$ 1.170 acres; Tax Map 223,

Lot 21 is  $\pm 1.490$  acres; Tax Map 223, Lot 26 is  $\pm 1.200$  acres; Tax Map 223, Lot at 27 is  $\pm 3.320$  acres; Tax Map 2. Some properties are as small as .267 acres (Tax Map 223, Lot 15). While the Property is one of the larger parcels, it is not so large that application of the density ordinance no longer has a fair or reasonable use. See RSA 674:33. Density promotes open space, alleviates municipal resource burdens, limits crowds, and prevents the intensive use of real property.

Those objectives still apply to Applicant's only marginally larger parcel. All real property is unique, and all property has special features. See DeLucca v. DeLucca, 152 N.H. 100, 104 (2005) (noting that all real property is unique). But the hardship standard asks whether the ordinance uniquely burdens the subject property compared to other properties in the area. This Property is not so burdened. Garrison v. Town of Henniker, 154 N.H. 26, 33 (2006) ("There is no evidence in the record that the property at issue is different from other property zoned rural residential. While its size may make it uniquely appropriate for GME's business, that does not make it unique for zoning purposes.")

Finally, the Proposed Development is simply not reasonable. Applicant is attempting to squeeze four three-bedroom homes, each with a two-car garage, on a  $\pm$  1.94-acre parcel. A more reasonable proposal would be two similarly sized homes. A variance cannot be issued because the Proposed Development does not meet the unnecessary hardship test under RSA 674:33.

Madam Chair, on behalf of all the abutters, we greatly appreciate the ZBA's work and your consideration of this request. As you bring this to the board for consideration and a vote, I assume only those that voted on 635 on May 16<sup>th</sup> would vote on this request.

Respectfully,

Appendix A, including land, all buildings and other improvements and structures now or hereafter thereon, all easements, rights and appurtenances belonging thereto, and all personal property now or hereafter used in connection therewith, which have been or are intended to be submitted to the provisions of the Act.

16. "Unit" means a part of the Condominium intended for independent ownership, all as more particularly described in Article II, Paragraph 4 hereof.

### ARTICLE II STATUTORILY REQUIRED INFORMATION

- 1. Name. The name of the Condominium is and shall be Tidewatch Condominiums.
- 2. <u>Location</u>. The Condominium is located off of Sagamore Avenue in the City of Portsmouth, County of Rockingham and State of New Hampshire and is comprised of 117 Units in 44 buildings in addition to a Maintenance/Meeting Building and a Mail House.
- 3. <u>Legal Description by Metes and Bounds</u>. A legal description of the land submitted to the Act is described in Appendix A and made a part hereof.
- 4. <u>Unit Boundaries and Maintenance Responsibilities</u>. A description of the boundaries of the Units is in accordance with the provisions of RSA 356-B: 12 which boundaries are further detailed as follows:

#### A. Horizontal Boundaries:

- i. <u>Lower Boundary</u>: The top surface of the unfinished concrete skin in the crawl space; the top surface of any finished flooring for the first and second floors and lofts, attics and garage storage areas or finished rooms within the garages; and the upper surface of the concrete floor of garages; and
- ii. <u>Upper Boundary</u>: The upper boundary of the crawl space is the plane formed by lower surface of the floor joists above the crawl spaces; the upper boundary of the first and second floors and lofts and attic areas is the horizontal plane of the finished surface of any ceiling and where applicable, beams, rafters, and closed fireplace dampers, extended to an intersection with the vertical perimeter boundaries; the upper horizontal boundaries of any garage shall be plane formed by the roof rafters, unless the upper portion of a garage contains a finished room in which case the upper horizontal boundary shall be the plane formed by the ceiling joists.

#### APPENDIX A

See, Book 5222, Pages2514-15 in the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds for a description of the Property, along with a site plan entitled, "Amended Site lan - Phase III - Tidewatch Condominium Portsmouth, N.N. Prepared for TWC of Portsmouth, L.L.C." dated April 21, 1997 recorded in the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds as Plan D-27541, which descriptions and document are incorporated herein by reference.

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| 2019       |  |
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141,400.00

142,000.00 133,600.00 83,800.00 125,100.00 150,500.00 133,200.00 132,900.00 141,700.00 122,700.00 159,600.00 141,700.00 142,200.00 142,000.00 123,000.00 141,600.00 174,800.00

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PRELIMINARY VALUE

133,200.00

Source: Portsmouth Tax Assessor. Verifies there are 117 Units in Tidewatch / 579 Sagamore Ave.

7/12/2019

of recorded page numbers. The 117 Units in Tidewatch This page (126) is included to verify the sequencing located at 579 Sagamore Ave are listed on pages 127 - 129 and 131.



| MAP/LOT             | OWNER NAME 1                            | OWNER NAME 2                             | STREET | STREET NAME  | DIST | LAND USE | NBHD | PRIOR VALUE |                 | PREHMINARY VALUE | <u>.</u> |
|---------------------|---|--|--------|--------------|------|----------|------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|----------|
| 0223/0030/0088//    | ABBRECHT MARCI K REVO TRUST             | ABBRECHT MARCI K TRUSTEE                 | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE |      | 1020     | 219  | \$ 843.5    | 200             | 883.700.00       | 9        |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0057/ / | ADAMS LIVING TRUST                      | ADAMS JOHN H AND JOANN G TRUSTEES        | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 589,8    | \$ 00.008,685   | 646,400.00       | 000      |
| 0223/0030/0103//    | ADE BARBARA E                           |  | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 805,7    | 805,700.00 \$   | 855,300.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0047//    | AHN AMANDA L                            |  | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | æ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 470,7    | 470,700.00 \$   | 568,400.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0016//    | ALEXANDER NANCY H REVOC TRUST           | ALEXANDER NANCY H TRUSTEE                | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 616,6    | \$ 00.009,519   | 654,500.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/003///    | BAKER POLLOCK REVOCABLE TRUST OF 2013   | POLLOCK DUNCAN & BAKER POLLOCK LEE       | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 715,1    | 715,100.00 \$   | 749,400.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0054/ / | BARLEVI FAMILY TRUST (99.5%)            | BARVELI STEVEN AND BARLEVI CHER TRUSTEES | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 449,4    | 449,400.00 \$   | 522,400.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0092/ / | BARRETTE VICKY A T REVO TRUST 2010      | BARRETTE VICKY A T TRUSTEE               | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | 9'161 \$    | \$ 00.009,767   | 837,100.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0053/ / | BARRON M TRUST 1998                     | BARRON MARION/BARRON THOMAS J TRUSTEES   | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | 9'909 \$    | \$ 00.009,909   | 00.006,069       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0098//    | BARTKO PENELOPE A REVOC TRUST           | BARTKO PENELOPE & MAXIM BARTKO TRUSTEES  | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 859,8    | \$ 00.008,628   | 902,800.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0109/ / | BARZYK PATRICIA T                       | BARZYK PETER P III                       | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | ×    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 865,3    | \$ 65,300.00 \$ | 1,060,400.00     | 00.0     |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0079/ / | BILLER RONALD T                         | LAMB CAROL E                             | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 768,0    | \$ 00.000,897   | 796,500.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0029/ / | BLODGETT VICTORIA F 2009 REVOC TRUST    | BLODGETT VICTORIA F TRUSTEE              | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 668,0    | \$ 00.000,899   | 708,600.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0028/ / | BOSCKETTI CARL M                        | BOSCKETTI SANDRA A                       | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | DC.  | 1020     | 219  | \$ 778,1    | 778,100.00 \$   | 824,400.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0027/ / | BOWLBY RITA L REVO TRUST 06             | BOWLBY RITA L TRUSTEE                    | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 513,3    | 513,300.00 \$   | 577,000.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0046//    | BURDETTE RODNEY E 2009 TRUST            | BURDETTE RODNEY E TRUSTEE                | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 621,6    | 621,600.00 \$   | 705,900.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0024//    | BURNHAM JOHN K                          | BURNHAM HELEN F                          | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 520,9    | \$ 00,000,00    | 586,500.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0122//    | CAIL SHEILA CURTIN REVOC TRUST 2002     | CAIL SHEILA C TRUSTEE                    | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 687,3    | \$ 00.005,389   | 728,600.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0062//    | CHRISTIANSEN BIRGIT S                   | MALLOY PATRICK E                         | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 454,9    | 454,900.00 \$   | 528,800.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0088//    | CORMACK JANETTE DECLARATION OF TRUST    | CORMACK JANETTE TRUSTEE                  | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | αĸ   | 1020     | 219  | 6'682 \$    | \$ 00.006,687   | 978,200.00       | 000      |
| 0223/0030/0118//    | CUNNINGHAM LINDA R IRREVOCABLE TRUST    | CUNNINGHAM LINDA R TRUSTEE               | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 571,8    | 571,800.00 \$   | 762,100.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0080//    | D ADAMO CHRISTINA M 2008 REVOCABLE TR   | D ADAMO CHRISTINA M TRUSTEE              | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 853,4    | 853,400.00 \$   | 876,700.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0117//    | DAVIS JUDITH A REVOC TRUST              | DAVIS JUDITH A TRUSTEE                   | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 626,8    | 626,800.00 \$   | 738,800.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0052/ / | DENNIS EVELYN J REVOC TRUST             | DENNIS EVELYN J TRUSTEE                  | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | æ    | 1020     | 219  | 9'625 \$    | \$ 00.009,675   | 682,800.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0048//    | DESMOND PHILIP                          | DESMOND JANETTE                          | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 512,2    | 512,200.00 \$   | 641,500.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0021//    | DIAMOND JAMES W REVOC TRUST -1990       | DIAMOND JAMES W TRUSTEE                  | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 521,4    | 521,400.00 \$   | 574,400.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0068//    | DIMATTEO T&L FAM REV TRUST OF 2017      | DIMATTEO THOMAS R & LAUREL D TTEES       | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 473,3    | 473,300.00 \$   | 571,600.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0020//    | DRAKE JR LAWRENCE C LIV TRUST (50% INT) | DRAKE JR LAWRENCE C TRUSTEE              | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 620,9    | \$ 00.000,000   | 677,100.00       | 00.      |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0086/ / | FESSENDEN PAMELA                        |  | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 588,7    | \$ 00.007,885   | 654,300.00       | 00:      |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0082/ / | FITZGERALD GEOFFREY 1997 TRUST          | FITZGERALD GEOFFREY TRUSTEE              | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | 0'095 \$    | \$ 00.000,095   | 693,500.00       | 00.0     |
| 0223/0030/0116//    | FORMAN MARIANNE I 1989 REVO TRUST       | FORMAN MARIANNE TRUSTEE                  | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 575,3    | 575,300.00 \$   | 678,000.00       | 00.      |
| 0223/0030/0033//    | FRANTZ SUSAN M REVOC TRUST              | FRANTZ SUSAN M TRUSTEE                   | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | 1,062 \$    | \$ 00.001,063   | 688,700.00       | 00.      |
| 0223/0030/0049//    | FRANZOSO BARBARA DUNFEY                 | DS                                       | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 566,6    | \$ 00.009,995   | 260,000.00       | 00.      |
| 0223/0030/0100//    | GRAY JANICE C REVO TRUST                | GRAY JANICE C TRUSTEE                    | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 868,0    | \$ 00.000,898   | 919,800.00       | 00.      |
| 0223/0030/0025//    | GRIFFIN MICHAEL J REVO TRUST 07         | GRIFFIN MICHAEL J TRUSTEE                | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 470,7    | \$ 00.000,700   | 568,400.00       | 00.      |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0099/ / | HAMBLETT SUZANNE S REVO TRUST 1997      | HAMBLETT SUZANNE S TRUSTEE               | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 862,5    | \$62,500.00 \$  | 905,100.00       | 00.      |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0028/ / | HAMMOND FAMILY TRUST                    | HAMMOND GLENN K & HAMMOND JOAN E TTEES   | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | ď    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 622,7    | 622,700.00 \$   | 709,800.00       | 00       |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0003/ / | HARTMAN FAMILY REVOC TR OF 2018         |  | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 673,6    | \$ 00.009,879   | 741,200.00       | .00      |
| / /530/ 0030/ 0270  | HARVELL CYNTHIA H 1991 TRUST            | HARVELL CYNTHIA H TRUSTEE                | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 741,6    | 41,600.00 \$    | 786,700.00       | .00      |
| 0223/ 0030/ 0035/ / | HINDLE JOHANNA TRUST                    |  | 579    | SAGAMORE AVE | œ    | 1020     | 219  | \$ 524,31   | 524,300.00 \$   | 590,200.00       | 00:      |

Note: The 117 Units in 44 Buildings that comprise Tidewatch begin with Units 1-110, then there is a gap, and Units 116-122 comprise the remainder. Units 111-115 DO NOT exist.

40 Units

7/12/2019

127

| 0223/0030/0008//  | 0223/0030/0094// | 0223/0030/0012// | 0223/0030/0084//                | 0223/0030/0005// | 0223/0030/0017// | 0223/0030/0095// | 0223/0030/0036// | 0223/0030/0002//                     | 0223/0030/0102//                 | 0223/0030/0040//             | 0223/0030/0072//               | 0223/0030/0061//                     | 0223/0030/0096//               | 0223/0030/0067//               | 0223/0030/0071//       | 0223/0030/0025//               | 0223/0030/0097//   | 0223/0030/0034//          | 0223/0030/0032//                   | 0223/0030/0019//    | 0223/0030/0105// | 0223/0030/0031//              | 0223/0030/0038//                | 0223/0030/0074//  | 0223/0030/0030//                     | 0223/0030/0059// | 0223/0030/0104//             | 0223/0030/0044// | 0223/0030/0043// | 0223/0030/0070// | 0223/0030/0001//     | 0223/0030/0107//         | 0223/0030/0045// | 0223/0030/0121// | 0223/0030/0066//              | 0223/0030/0004//              | 0223/0030/0058//                      | 0223/0030/0051// | MAP/LOT           |
|---|------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| ROGERS-SZULC REVOCABLE TRUST OF 2014 ROSS KATHLEEN M 1992 TRUST | ROALSVIG JEAN    | RICHARD ANNE A   | PRATT JANE REYNOLDS REVOC TRUST | PONTRELLO MARY E | PATERSON JOYCE M | O'LEARY KEVIN J  | OJA SHARON NODIE | OBRIEN EDWARD J REVOCABLE TRUST 1998 | NEWELL BARBARA A REVOCABLE TRUST | MURPHY KENNETH D REVOC TRUST | MORRIS JAFFE NANCY REVOC TRUST | MORLEY FAMILY LIVING TRUST           | MORIN JOHN & MIMI FAMILY TRUST | MORE BROTHER INVESTMENTS LLC   | MINICH GEORGE MARSHALL | MILLER ALICE T REVOCABLE TRUST | MEUSE JAMES DAVID  | MELLIN FAMILY TRUST       | MELITA JOHN F & THOMAS J &         | MCNAMARA TIMOTHY A  | MCCOOL PAUL J    | MCCARTHY R B & S I REVO TRUST | LOOSER KEVIN G REVOCABLE TRUST  | LEWIS KATHERINE H | LANNON MICHAEL J REV TRUST (50% INT) | LAMB VICCI A     | LALOS KATHERINE T REVO TRUST | KANIN ERIK D     | KANEJOHN         | JONES LEONARD S  | JACOBSEN GEORGE W JR | JACKSON HOLE RANCH 2 LLC | HUSZAR ROBERT J  | HURST RODNEY     | HOWARD JOHN R REVOCABLE TRUST | HOBSON MARYLAINE REALTY TRUST | HITCHCOCK E F & MCCABE C M REVO TRUST | HINES LARRY L    | OWNER NAME 1      |
| ROGERS KS & ROGERS SZULC AM TRUSTEES ROSS KATHLEEN M TRUSTEE    | ROALSVIG KNUT    |                  | PRATT JANE REYNOLDS TRUSTEE     |                  |                  | O'LEARY SUSAN W  |                  | OBRIEN EDWARD J SUSAN B TRUSTEES     | NEWELL BARBARA A TRUSTEE         | SPAHR ALLISON M REVOC TRUST  | MORRIS JAFFE NANCY TRUSTEE     | MORLEY JOHN J & SHAWNA M CO-TRUSTEES | MORIN JOHN E TRUSTEE           | C/O GENE FISK & ASSOCIATES LLC | MINICH IRENE BULLINGER | MILLER ALICE T TRUSTEE         | MEUSE KIMBERLY RAE | MELLIN S R & J H TRUSTEES | TIMOTHY J & MELITA-JOHNSON LINDA J | MCNAMARA MARY ELLEN | MCCOOLJANICE M   | MCCARTHY R B & S I TRUSTEES   | ALANDYDY PATRICIA J REVOC TRUST |                   | LANNON GEORGINA REV TRUST (50% INT)  | LAMB CAROL E     | LALOS KATHERINE T TRUSTEE    | KANIN KAREN      | ALDEN MELISSA    | MORNER CLAUDIA J | JACOBSEN SUSAN W     |                          | HUSZAR JEAN R    | HURST LINDA J    | HOWARD JOHN R TRUSTEE         |                               | HITCHCOCK E F & MCCABE C M TRUSTEES   | HINES SONA J     | OWNER NAME 2      |
| 579<br>579  | 579              | 579              | 579                             | 579              | 579              | 579              | 579              | 579                                  | 579                              | 579                          | 579                            | 579                                  | 579                            | 579                            | 579                    | 579                            | 579                | 579                       | 579                                | 579                 | 579              | 579                           | 579                             | 579               | 579                                  | 579              | 579                          | 579              | 579              | 579              | 579                  | 579                      | 579              | 579              | 579                           | 579                           | 579                                   | 579              | STREET            |
| SAGAMORE AVE<br>SAGAMORE AVE                                    | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE                    | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE                         | SAGAMORE AVE                     | SAGAMORE AVE                 | SAGAMORE AVE                   | SAGAMORE AVE                         | SAGAMORE AVE                   | SAGAMORE AVE                   | SAGAMORE AVE           | SAGAMORE AVE                   | SAGAMORE AVE       | SAGAMORE AVE              | SAGAMORE AVE                       | SAGAMORE AVE        | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE                  | SAGAMORE AVE                    | SAGAMORE AVE      | SAGAMORE AVE                         | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE                 | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE         | SAGAMORE AVE             | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE     | SAGAMORE AVE                  | SAGAMORE AVE                  | SAGAMORE AVE                          | SAGAMORE AVE     | STREET NAME       |
| 23 23   | æ                | æ                | æ                               | R                | æ                | ∞                | <del>20</del>    | 20                                   | æ                                | ⊅                            | æ                              | æ                                    | æ                              | æ                              | 20                     | æ                              | 20                 | カ                         | æ                                  | æ                   | æ                | æ                             | æ                               | ᅏ                 | 20                                   | æ                | æ                            | æ                | 20               | 70               | æ                    | æ                        | æ                | ᄍ                | æ                             | æ                             | R                                     |                  | DIST 14           |
| 1020<br>1020  | 1020             |                  |                                 | 1020             |                  |                  | 1020             |                                      |                                  |                              |                                |                                      |                                |                                | 1020                   |                                | 1020               |                           |                                    |                     |                  |                               |                                 |                   |                                      |                  | 1020                         |                  |                  | 1020             | 1020                 | 1020                     | 1020             | 1020             | 1020                          | 1020                          | 1020                                  |                  | LAND USE 1        |
| 219 \$<br>219 \$  | 219 \$           | 219 \$           | 219 \$                          | 219 \$           | 219 \$           | 219 \$           | 219 \$           | 219 \$                               | 219 \$                           | 219 \$                       | 219 \$                         | 219 \$                               | 219 \$                         | 219 \$                         | 219 \$                 | 219 \$                         | 219 \$             | 219 \$                    | 219 \$                             | 219 \$              | 219 \$           | 219 \$                        | 219 \$                          | 219 \$            | 219 \$                               | 219 \$           | 219 \$                       | 219 \$           | 219 \$           | 219 \$           | 219 \$               | 219 \$                   | 219 \$           | 219 \$           | 219 \$                        | 219 \$                        | 219 \$                                | <.               | NBHD              |
| 615,200.00 \$<br>594,700.00 \$                                  | 610,700.00 \$    | 536,700.00       | 789,800.00                      | 420,700.00       | 645,100.00       | 1,071,500.00     | 667,000.00       | 452,600.00                           | 838,000.00                       | 527,700.00                   |                                | 532,100.00 \$                        | 868,600,00                     | 536,500.00                     | _                      | _                              | _                  | 625,600.00                | 484,500.00                         |                     | _                | 676,500.00                    | 740,400.00                      | _                 |                                      | 452,200.00       | _                            |                  | 450,800.00       | 648,200.00       |                      | _                        |                  |                  | 574,100.00                    | 641,800.00                    | 453,600.00                            | 532,800.00       | PRIOR VALUE       |
| \$ 692,700.00<br>\$ 692,600.00                                  | \$ 699,300.00    | \$ 616,700.00    | \$ 838,200.00                   | \$ 525,700.00    | \$ 691,800.00    | \$ 1,062,900.00  | \$ 708,300.00    | \$ 566,300.00                        | \$ 889,000.00                    | \$ 593,300.00                |                                |                                      | \$ 912,200.00                  | \$ 632,000.00                  |                        |                                | \$ 946,800.00      | \$ 696,400.00             | \$ 544,500.00                      | · ·                 | \$ 759,500.00    | \$ 738,900.00                 | \$ 772,000.00                   |                   | \$ 800,100.00                        | \$ 526,300.00    |                              | \$ 577,200.00    | \$ 579,300.00    | \$ 738,400.00    | •                    |                          |                  | \$ 640,500.00    | \$ 687,100.00                 | \$ 742,300.00                 | \$ 565,400.00                         | \$ 627,500.00    | PRELIMINARY VALUE |

7/12/2019

40 Units

128



## CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

Planning Department 1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

(603) 610-7216

#### **ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

May 23, 2023

635 Sagamore Development, LLC 3612 Lafayette Rd Dept 4 Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

RE: Board of Adjustment request for property located at 635 Sagamore Avenue (LU-22-209)

Dear Property Owner:

The Zoning Board of Adjustment, at its regularly scheduled meeting of **Tuesday, May 16, 2023**, considered your application for the removal of existing structures and constructing 4 single family dwellings which requires the following: 1) A Variance from Section 10.513 to allow four free-standing dwellings where one is permitted. 2) A Variance from Section 10.521 to allow a lot area per dwelling unit of 21,198 square feet per dwelling where 43,560 square feet is required. Said property is shown on Assessor Map 222 Lot 19 and lies within the Single Residence A (SRA) District. As a result of said consideration, the Board voted to **deny** the request initially because the proposed plan did not meet the hardship criteria. This motion failed. The Board then voted to **approve** the variances for the project as presented with the following **condition:** 

The Board's decision may be appealed up to thirty (30) days after the vote. Please contact the Planning Department for more details about the appeals process.

The minutes and audio recording of this meeting are available by contacting the Planning Department.

Very truly yours,

Phyllis Eldridge, Chair of the Zoning Board of Adjustment

Phyllis Eldridge

CC:

Joseph Coronati, Jones & Beach R. Timothy Phoenix, Hoefle, Phoenix, Gormley & Roberts, PLLC

# Findings of Fact | Variance City of Portsmouth Zoning Board of Adjustment

Date: <u>5-16-2023</u>

Property Address: 635 Sagamore Avenue

Application #: <u>LU-22-209</u>

Decision: **Grant** 

#### Findings of Fact:

Effective August 23, 2022, amended RSA 676:3, I now reads as follows: The local land use board shall issue a final written decision which either approves or disapproves an application for a local permit and make a copy of the decision available to the applicant. The decision shall include specific written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact supporting a disapproval shall be grounds for automatic reversal and remand by the superior court upon appeal, in accordance with the time periods set forth in RSA 677:5 or RSA 677:15, unless the court determines that there are other factors warranting the disapproval. If the application is not approved, the board shall provide the applicant with written reasons for the disapproval. If the application is approved with conditions, the board shall include in the written decision a detailed description of the all conditions necessary to obtain final approval.

The proposed application meets/does not meet the following purposes for granting a Variance:

| Section 10.233 Variance Evaluation Criteria  10.233.21 Granting the variance would not be | Finding<br>(Meets<br>Criteria) | Relevant Facts     Having more conforming structures   |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| contrary to the public interest.  | YES                            | on the parcel is much better than the existing condition.  |
| 10.233.22 Granting the variance would observe the spirit of the Ordinance.                | YES                            | <ul> <li>The SRA zone limits one dwelling unit per acre, and the applicant is asking for four units on nearly two acres, which would be directly across the street, the SRB zone.</li> <li>Comparing the four dwelling units at 21,200 square feet per unit to Tidewatch's 122 units at 19,300 square feet per unit, the project would be less dense.</li> </ul> |
| 10.233.23 Granting the variance would do substantial justice.                             | YES                            | The project would have no effect<br>on anything across the street or at<br>Tidewatch because one wouldn't<br>even see the properties.  |

| 10.233.24 Granting the variance would not diminish the values of surrounding properties.  | YES | <ul> <li>The project would have no effect on anything across the street or at Tidewatch because one wouldn't even see the properties.</li> <li>The project would not alter the essential characteristics of the neighborhood because the large lot could not reasonably be subdivided based on its irregular shape and street frontage.</li> </ul>                             |
|---|-----|--|
| 10.233.25 Literal enforcement of the provisions of the Ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship.  (a)The property has special Conditions that distinguish it from other properties in the area. AND (b)Owing to these special conditions, a fair and substantial relationship does not exist between the general public purposes of the Ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property; and the proposed use is a reasonable one. OR Owing to these special conditions, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict conformance with the Ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable use of it. | YES | <ul> <li>The property has special conditions of being an oversized lot for the area as well as an angled and elevated one, and only so much of it is usable.</li> <li>Limiting the lot to a single-family home would be a hardship and four single-family units on nearly two acres was a more than reasonable use and a huge improvement to the existing property.</li> </ul> |

# Stipulations

1. The design and location of the dwellings may change as a result of Planning Board review and approval.