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INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF LAUREL HOLLOW
PLANNING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
October 7, 2019
7:00 p.m.

VILLAGE HALL
1492 Laurel Hollow Road
Syosset, New York 11791-9603

PRESENT: CHRIS HADJANDREAS, Chairman
ELIZABETH DiBLASIO, Member
NANCY JONES, Member
JAMES GALTIERI, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

HOWARD AVRUTINE, Village Attorney

P7-2019 & T36-2019 - Ri bei ro - 1388 Ri dge Road
Removal of Tree

RONALD KOENIG
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

Proceedings

1 MR. AVRUTINE: Hearing P7-2019 and T36-2019,
2 the public hearing on the application of Bruno Ribeiro,
3 1388 Ridge Road, for approval to remove one tree located
4 within the required front yard setback. The parcel of
5 land under application is known as Section 26, Block C,
6 Lot 300 on the Nassau County Land and Tax Map.

7 The first exhibit is the affidavit of posting
8 from Elizabeth Kaye that the Legal Notice was posted on
9 the front bulletin board at Village Hall on
10 September 20, 2019.

11 The next exhibit is an Affidavit of
12 Publication that the Legal Notice was published in the
13 North Shore Leader on September 25, 2019.

14 The next exhibit is a document that confirms
15 that the Legal Notice was published to the Village
16 website on September 20, 2019.

17 The next exhibit confirms that the Legal
18 Notice was sent to Village website NEWS subscribers on
19 October 2, 2019.

20 The next exhibit is an Affidavit of Mailing
21 from the applicant indicating that the Notice of Public
22 Hearing was mailed on September 24, 2019 to the
23 individuals set forth in the affidavit.

24 And the final exhibit is notification from the
25 Nassau County Planning Commission dated October 4, 2019,

Proceedings

1 that this matter is referred to the Village Planning
2 Board to take action as it deems appropriate.

3 Sir.

4 MR. RIBEIRO: Good afternoon, ladies and
5 gentlemen. Bruno Ribeiro, R-I-B-E-I-R-O, 1388 Ridge
6 Road.

7 I'm here to apply for one tree to take down,
8 one tree that is 10 feet away from my house and it has
9 tremendous holes everywhere. It's really bugging me and
10 it's a big mess. The branches are all over. Of course,
11 I could trim, which I will do with other trees that I
12 have, but this one, as you -- I will pass this around.

13 CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: I think we are going to
14 submit that as evidence.

15 MR. AVRUTINE: Yes. How many photos?

16 CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: Four photos.

17 MR. AVRUTINE: So, Applicant's Exhibit No. 1
18 is four photographs depicting the tree to be removed.

19 Is that correct, sir?

20 MR. RIBEIRO: Correct.

21 CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: The damage or rot.

22 MR. RIBEIRO: I just realized recently that
23 there's an underground tank that I didn't know about
24 that the Petro guys -- I just recently purchased the
25 home, so the Petro people told me there is an

1 underground tank that is buried 15 feet away from the
2 tree.

3 And, of course, there are other things like
4 the wires. But I've been aware that I can bury the
5 wires and that's not a reason to take down a tree, but
6 the wires are there in some of the pictures too. And
7 some branches are really over the house and I'm not sure
8 whether the roots of the tree are this close to the
9 house.

10 I have other big trees around the property,
11 let's say 15 feet away also, but they're not as
12 concerned as this one because nobody, not the
13 landscapers or anybody, have seen holes in them the size
14 of that one. So, that's my -- that's the only one tree
15 that I'm applying for.

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: For the record, the
18 Board made a site visit to the home and witnessed the --
19 saw the holes that Mr. Ribeiro was talking about which
20 looked to consume about 30 to 50 percent of the base of
21 the tree with rot and is a concern that could
22 significantly damage and hurt someone if that tree were
23 to come down in a storm.

24 You mentioned about, is that an underground
25 oil tank that's in the area?

Proceedings

1 MR. RIBEIRO: Yes.

2 CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: Does that have to be
3 removed as well or --

4 MR. RIBEIRO: So far, I don't know. I had the
5 Petro people, they are going to come over. There's some
6 assessment that they do to underground tanks that they
7 will see how they are. But from what I'm concerned and
8 from what I know, they're not that old, so I think they
9 are in good condition.

10 MEMBER GALTIERI: Is there any plans to
11 replant anything or is this just a removal?

12 MR. RIBEIRO: So far my point, my plan, is to
13 remove the tree, but, of course, I just bought the house
14 and I want to do some things my own way and some
15 landscaping also. I'm just living there for two months,
16 so that was my main concern, the landscapers. But I
17 have plans to put a pool. I'm applying for an expansion
18 on the house and applying for a generator and plenty of
19 things going on. But so far, this one is what concerns
20 me the most.

21 CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: Absolutely.
22 Where are you planning on extending the house?

23 MR. RIBEIRO: It's towards the kitchen.

24 CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: Are there any trees in
25 that area?

Proceedings

1 MR. RIBEIRO: No. There's a deck there. So I
2 will just make an extension of the kitchen towards the
3 deck. So, it's not going to even take space outside the
4 property. It's just the deck that I will turn into a
5 second part of the kitchen.

6 CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: Does anybody on the
7 Board have any questions for Mr. Ribeiro?

8 MEMBER GALTIERI: What are you going to do
9 with the raccoon families that you're getting rid of?

10 CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: They'll find another
11 tree there.

12 MR. RIBEIRO: There are plenty of trees there.
13 I used to live in Cove Neck. I had thousands of trees
14 on my property. I didn't take down one because my
15 landscapers assured me that they were okay, healthy.

16 CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: And I am not an
17 arborist by any stretch, but from what I witnessed of
18 this tree, it is definitely not a healthy tree, and
19 seeing where the rot is which is about between 15 and
20 20 feet up on the tree and compromising anywhere from a
21 third to two-thirds of the base of the tree in rot, I
22 would strongly agree as well that the tree come down
23 right away.

24 Does anybody else have anything else to say on
25 this?

1 MEMBER GALTIERI: I think it's fairly obvious
2 the tree is all holed up.

3 MEMBER JONES: Yes.

4 MR. AVRUTINE: Questions from the Board?

5 MEMBER GALTIERI: No.

6 CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: Any questions from the
7 audience?

8 MR. AVRUTINE: Let the record reflect that
9 there are none.

10 A motion to close the public hearing?

11 MEMBER JONES: A motion.

12 MR. AVRUTINE: Member Jones.

13 Second?

14 MEMBER GALTIERI: So moved.

15 MR. AVRUTINE: Member Galtieri.

16 All in favor?

17 CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: Aye.

18 MEMBER DiBLASIO: Aye.

19 MEMBER JONES: Aye.

20 MEMBER GALTIERI: Aye.

21 MR. AVRUTINE: Let the record reflect that
22 this matter is deemed Type II under the New York State
23 Environmental Quality Review Act requiring no further
24 environmental review.

25 A motion on the application?

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CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: A motion to approve.

MR. AVRUTINE: And there are no conditions associated with that, correct?

CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: None.

MR. AVRUTINE: And it's by Chairman Hadjandreas.

A second?

MEMBER JONES: Second.

MR. AVRUTINE: Member Jones.

All in favor?

CHAIRMAN HADJANDREAS: Aye.

MEMBER DiBLASIO: Aye.

MEMBER JONES: Aye.

MEMBER GALTIERI: Aye.

MR. AVRUTINE: Application approved.

MR. RIBEIRO: Thank you.

CERTIFIED THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND ACCURATE TRANSCRIPT OF THE ORIGINAL STENOGRAPHIC MINUTES IN THIS CASE.

RONALD H. KOENIG
Senior Court Reporter