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# CITY OF DANBURY

155 DEER HILL AVENUE

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

COMMON COUNCIL

## REPORT

July 7, 2004

Mayor Mark D. Boughton  
Members of the Common Council

Re: **Request to Install Driveway on Long Ridge Road**

The Common Council Committee appointed to review a request to install a driveway on Long Ridge Road met twice, first on February 17, 2004 and on June 15, 2004. In attendance at the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting were committee members Basso and Barry. Also in attendance were Director of Public Works William Buckley, Keith Beaver of Didona Associates and Council Members Teicholz and Cavo, ex-officio. In attendance at the June 15, 2004 meeting were committee members Basso, Barry and Visconti, as well as Director of Public Work William Buckley, the petitioner Jennifer Thomas, Planning Director Dennis Elpern and Council Members Cavo and Nagarsheth, ex-officio.

At the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting Mrs. Basso asked Mr. Beaver to explain the request. He stated that the owner had always had access through a travel way and now they no longer have the access they need for oil delivery trucks. He is proposing a small driveway apron at the end of the road that would be up to City standards. From the point of the apron, the rest would be a gravel driveway. A report submitted by Mr. Elpern stated that this would need a permit from the Highway Department. There was a positive recommendation from the Planning Commission.

Mr. Buckley stated that the driveway, as proposed, is unsafe. Mr. Buckley submitted a report from Traffic Engineer Abdul Mohammed listing the concerns such as the restricted site lines, the width of the proposed driveway and a problem with a gravel portion of the driveway. Mr. Buckley stated that he does not think he would issue a permit for this because it does not meet zoning regulations. Mr. Buckley asked Mr. Beaver why he did not bring the road back on the other side of the property? Mr. Beaver stated that they have a septic system and three foot walls. He would have to look into the septic fields. Mr. Buckley suggested that Mr. Beaver work with Mr. Mohammed to come up with a design and report back to the committee.

At the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, Mrs. Basso asked Mr. Buckley for an overview of the situation. Mr. Buckley said that Mr. Beaver was supposed to work with Abdul Mohammed to come up with a better design. The petition is before the Common

Council because it is a scenic road and his concerns would be the same even if it were not a scenic road. The major concern is the site line.

Mr. Elpern stated that he does not believe that the width of the driveway requiring ten feet applies to a single family home. Ms. Thomas stated that she hopes to be able to have oil delivered to the cottage on the property, but it is unsafe without a driveway. She stated that the issues regarding footage for pavement and driveway width have been answered. She is flexible with the design of the driveway, but there is no other way to put the driveway in without changing the property.

Mr. Barry asked if the Common Council approves driveway cuts? Mr. Buckley said it does not. The Common Council's function is to approve a driveway entrance onto a scenic road. Mr. Barry stated that it does not seem to have any impact on the scenic road. The issue is safety. He asked if the Common Council has jurisdiction to rule on that. Mr. Buckley said the issue is before the committee because he did not issue a permit.

Mr. Barry made a motion that the construction of a driveway be approved provided that a driveway permit can be issued by the Director of Public Works consistent with normal review procedures. Seconded by Mr. Visconti. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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PAULINE BASSO, Chairman

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KEVIN BARRY

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FRED VISCONTI