

BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
Post Office Box 164
Newtown, CT 06470

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2015

NEWTOWN POLICE

WARDEN

James O. Gaston, Sr.

BOARD OF BURGESSES

Joan G. Crick – 1st Senior Burgess

Joseph J. Maher, Jr. – 2nd Senior Burgess

Betsy Kenyon

Anthony Baiad

William Lucas

Chris Gardner

BOROUGH CLERK

Ann LoBosco

BOROUGH TREASURER

Paula Brinkman

ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Jean St. Jean

TAX COLLECTOR/ASSESSOR

Jodie Enriquez

FLAGPOLE

January 20, 2015

Paul Mangiofico
Chairperson
Police Commission
Town of Newtown
3-5 Main Street
Newtown, CT 06470

Re: Flagpole/Historic Main Street Preservation

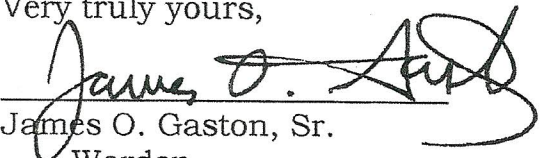
Dear Mr Mangiofico and Members of the Police Commission:

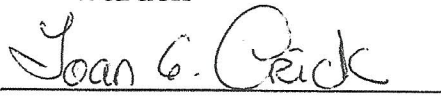
Please be advised that we, the Board of Burgesses and Warden, on behalf of the residents of Main Street and the Borough of Newtown take serious umbrage to the Chairperson's reference that the flagpole has "been a thorn in the side of Newtown for thirty years." We disagree. The flagpole has long been both an icon and valuable asset to the Town and historic homes of Main Street. It slows traffic better than ugly speed bumps and multiple carnival-like colored signs that accompany them. Moreover, statistics demonstrate there are many roadway areas in town that present significantly more challenges than the flagpole. We encourage you to address those dangers. As you know, a \$50,000 study that included the flagpole was performed some years ago that suggested

the only possible solution was a roundabout that would result in the significant taking of private property, including Trinity, the Meeting House, 33 Main Street and John Vouros' Inn. The bottom line, respectful driving results in safe roads, including the flagpole. Perhaps you could promote that as a public message.

This letter has been approved by Borough Counsel.
Thank you.

Very truly yours,


James O. Gaston, Sr.
Warden


Joan Glover Crick
Sr. Burgess

Cc: Newtown Bee

BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
Post Office Box 164
Newtown, CT 06470

Hook & Ladder

WARDEN

James O. Gaston, Sr.

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Town of Newtown

3-5 Main Street

Newtown, CT 06470

Re: Re: Church Hill Road - Hook & Ladder

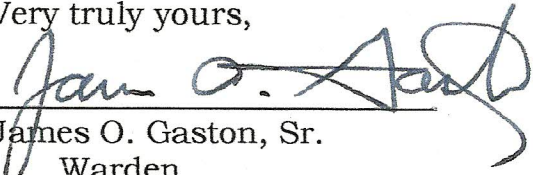
Dear Mr Mangiofico and Members of the Police Commission:

Please find enclosed the legal opinion of Borough counsel regarding Hook and Ladder's unconditional Borough Zoning Commission approval re: Church Hill Road. As noted by Borough counsel, the matter is resolved and Hook and Ladder is fully authorized to move forward with their project. I understand the Town authorities agree with Borough legal counsel. I am discouraged by the comments made to the newspaper that the traffic-zoning matter remained unresolved. Said comments were inaccurate. The matter is resolved. Please understand that further involvement by the Police Commission would be viewed as an effort to usurp the powers of the Borough Zoning Commission. We know that is

not the Commission's intent and it will conduct government duties accordingly.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


James O. Gaston, Sr.
Warden

Cc:

Honorable Pat Llodra
Fire Commission Chairperson - Robert Manna
Newtown Bee

January 13, 2015

Warden and Burgesses, Borough of Newtown
P.O. Box 164
Newtown, CT 06470

Re: Newtown Hook & Ladder Special Permit - Church Hill Road

I have been asked for a ruling of concerning the zoning commission's approval on December 10, 2014 of a special permit for erection of a new firehouse facility on property located on Church Hill Road. The question arises as to the absence of a formal traffic study for the project.

The Borough zoning regulations require, as a precondition to approval of a special permit, that the Borough Zoning Commission find that the proposed use will not cause a traffic hazard on existing streets. The commission may accept comments from the town's Traffic Authority, the Fire Marshal and other concerned agencies. Such comments, however, are neither mandatory nor binding. Some applicants choose to submit formal traffic studies as evidence in support of that finding, but such studies are not required. Many applicants rely on other evidence. In the case of Newtown Hook & Ladder's application, concern was expressed about fire equipment traveling westbound on Church Hill Road, but there was nothing specific concerning the flagpole or problems relating to it. There was also evidence concerning fire apparatus that would be exiting onto Church Hill Road rather than onto Main Street and, for some responses, traveling in a different direction. Based on all the evidence introduced at the hearing, the zoning commission found that the firehouse project will not cause any new traffic hazards at its new location.

The commission considers the matter closed with the final vote approving the special permit. With no appeal having been taken from its action, the matter is resolved and the commission is now without authority to revisit the application.

Yours,



Donald A. Mitchell

DAM/ps