

August 6, 2022

Mr. Michael McKnight, Chairman, Wrentham Planning Board

c/o Wrentham Planning Department

Wrentham Town Hall

79 South Street

Wrentham, Massachusetts 02093

RE: 20 Hancock Street (Proposed Sheldon Meadow Senior Living Community)

Dear Chairman McKnight and members of the Planning Board:

I am writing on behalf of myself and my wife, Joudrie Jones, who have resided at 32 Hancock Street for 52 years.

First, we are writing about the Peer Review sent to the Board from Beals and Thomas, Inc (BTI) dated May 24, 2022, specifically about item 10 in their general comments section.

Item 10 states; "The Project proposes to utilize municipal water infrastructure in Hancock Street to serve the **domestic and fire protection water demands**. Notations on the existing conditions plan, indicates the water main in Hancock Street is 4"; however, the proposed Project water main is 8". The increase in size would be an **atypical** engineering design. We defer the Wrentham DPW personnel to review and approve the water connection."

Secondly, referring to a letter written by Brian Antonioli, Assistant Director of Wrentham's Department of Public Works dated April, 27, 2022. His comments submitted to the Planning Board about the issue of the lack of looping mains in and out of the proposed developments, essentially creating a large water dead end. Also noted by Mr. Antonioli is his concern due to the lack of water sources in West Wrentham.

We need to let the Board know that these comments strongly concern us, our neighbors and possibly the future residents of said Development. Taking in the facts that the recent Wrentham Water System Master Plan made in very clear, that Wrentham has an already over-taxed and aged water supply system, relying on the constant operation of the water pumping stations in the main part of the Town and the fact that the entire West End of Town's water supply is supported by a single 24" pipe, down West Street, under the route 495 bridge and all the way to near the Bellingham line.

An added comment: The water main from West Street is tapped by an approximately 100 year old 4" water main running down Hancock and serves several homes thereon. After living in one of these homes

for over 52 years, we can say that we have never had a problem with the water pressure, the water quality or the confidence that the nearby fire hydrant will be able to handle any fire emergency in our area.

We ask the Board to consider the following:

1. That if the Board ever considers approval of said development, then, they should insist that **the Developer be required to design his proposal to have a full water looping system as condition of approval.** This is not only a precautionary step by the Board, but an appropriate condition to prevent possible problems in the future, which will place a burden on the Town and the tax-payers of such.
2. As BTI, the Peer reporter states: “existing conditions plan indicated water main in Hancock Street is 4’; however the proposed project water main is 8”. This greatly concerns the residents of Hancock Street relative to what would be the affect on water pressure in our homes and the security of having good pressure at the fire hydrants.
3. That if the Board should ever consider granting approval to this development, that the water main on Hancock Street, from West Street to Burnt Swamp Road, be upgraded to any least an equal sized main of 8” as is proposed by the applicant and **that said upgrade be at the Applicant’s expense and not on the tax-payers of the Town of Wrentham.** (Hopefully we have learned a lesson from the recent 4+ million dollar fiasco on Madison Street, paid by the taxpayers, for replacement of that water main.)

These items for your consideration may also have some relation to the proposed development at 1139 West Street, Sheldon West, which also has a need for the same type of looping system.

The above mentioned conditions seem to us to be reasonable, not only because it is recommended by several people; i.e. BTI, DPW and many of the abutters and other concerned citizens of the Town, but also it is a reasonable component of impact mitigation considering the possible addition of some 25 new homes added to our already over-tax and sensitive water resources in Wrentham.

We have addressed only two areas of several concerns that have been expressed over this ill conceived idea of building homes, requiring some 65,000 cubic yards of fill, in a sensitive wet land, in an aquifer protection zone, in one of the most beautiful historic and agricultural sections of the area. **We strongly request that the Planning Board consider our comments and those of others before granting any approvals.**

Thank you for your consideration,

Very truly yours,

William and Joudrie Jones