

# City of Rochester, New Hampshire

## Zoning Board of Adjustment

## **Variance Application**

TO:	<b>BOARD</b>	OF	ADJU	JST	MEN	<b>1</b> T
	CITY O	F R	CHE	STI	ER .	

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE	
CASE NO. Z - 24 - 17	
DATE FILED 3 20 24	
091	
ZONING BOARD CLERK	

Applicant: Zachariah Thone	
E-mail:_zach.thone@gmail.comPh	none: <u>603-833-3139</u>
Applicant Address: 632 Salmon Falls Road, Rochester, NH 03868	
Property Owner (if different): Same	
Property Owner Address:	
Variance Address: 632 Salmon Falls Road	
Map Lot and Block No: Tax Map 224, Lot 12	
Description of Property: 3.51Ac Parcel in the AG Zone with Sewer and Wate	er
Proposed use or existing use affected; Existing Single Family Use, Proposed	Subdivision to Create 1 Additional Lot with 50' of Frontage
The undersigned hereby requests a variance to the terms of the Roches	ster Zoning Ordinance, Ch. 275, Section
and asks that said terms be waived to permit the creation of a lot with 50'	of frontage, using a "back lot" or "flag lot" configuration.
The undersigned alleges that the following circumstances exist which p	
the strict terms of the Zoning Ordinance and thus constitute grounds f presenting my case the testimony should be confined to the 5 criteria.	
Signed: for the Applicant as the representative	Date: <u>3-20-24</u>



# City of Rochester, New Hampshire

## Zoning Board of Adjustment

## **Variance Criteria**

1) Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest because:
See Narrative
2) If the variance were granted, the spirit of the ordinance would be observed because:  See Narrative
3) Granting the variance would do substantial justice because:  See Narrative
4.) If the variance were granted, the values of the surrounding properties would not be diminished because: See Narrative
<ul> <li>5.) Unnecessary Hardship:</li> <li>a. Owning to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area, denial of the variance would result in an unnecessary hardship because: <ul> <li>i. No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property because:</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
See Narrative
And: ii. The proposed use is a reasonable one because:
See Narrative
b. Explain how, if the criteria in subparagraph (A) are not established, an unnecessary hardship will be deemed to exist if, and only if, owning to the special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area, the property cannot be reasonably used in the strict conformance with the ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable reasonable use of it.
See Narrative



335 Second Crown Point Road Barrington, NH 03825 Phone: (603) 332-2863 Fax: (603) 335-4623 www.BerrySurveying.Com crberry@metrocast.net March 20, 2024

City of Rochester Zoning Board Attention: Shanna Saunders, Director of Planning & Development 33 Wakefield Street Rochester, NH 03867,

Re:

Zacharia Thone

632 Salmon Falls Road

Tax Map 224, 12 Variance Request

Ms. Saunders

On behalf of our client, Zacharia (Zach) Thone, Berry Surveying & Engineering (BS&E) is submitting a Variance to the Zoning Board of Adjustment to Chapter 275, Table 19-A, Dimensional Standards, Agricultural Zone (AG), frontage, to permit a new subdivision lot with 50' of frontage where 150' is required within the zone.

## Background and General Narrative:

Zach owns and existing single-family home at 632 Salmon Falls Road which is located in the AG Zone. There is municipal water and sewer located within the street. The existing parcel is 3.51 Acres of land and has a small wetland that is located towards the central portion. The parcel contains 272.85' of road frontage along Salmon Falls Road. The site is gently sloping from the street to the rear of the lot, contains two accessory structures and is relatively unwooded.

The applicant requested that BS&E conduct a boundary survey and complete existing conditions survey of the parcel in an effort to review development potentials of the site. The minimum lot size for the zone is 20,000 square feet with the minimum frontage requirement of 150' of frontage. If the applicant were to develop a small proposed roadway the site would yield a number of units and would create a 50' stem, in a similar format, to provide frontage to a higher density on the property.

In review of Chapter 275, "Flag Lots", "Porkchop Lots" and other similar sections, back lots are permitted throughout the City and are permitted within the AG Zone. These are encouraged to reduce the "reaching" affects of small cul-de-sac roads to allow further development of moderately sized parcels of land. The purpose is to reduce the potential for costly municipal infrastructure. The proposal is in keeping with this methodology prescribed by the zoning document, however is proposed in a way that isn't as restrictive as the "Porkchop" subdivision

and isn't contained within a major subdivision as prescribed in the "Flag Lot" ordinance. Relief to the frontage requirement is a reasonable approach to achieving the same end goal.

<u>Variance Criteria for Chapter 275</u>, Attachment 6, Table 19-A to permit the creation of a new subdivision lot with 50' of Frontage where 150' is required.

- 1) Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest because:

  The public interest here is providing reasonable development potential without the need for costly municipal infrastructure to maintain as is permitted in multiple sections of the ordinance. This can be found in the provided definition of Porkchop Subdivision within the zoning ordinance. The 50' frontage, which would support the proposed driveway to one single house lot, is substantially the same or a reduced impact to the property, land and abutting land owners as a proposed roadway and therefore the context in which this property falls will not be changed in a marked way if approved by the board.
- 2) If the variance were granted, the spirit of the ordinance would be observed because: If the variance were granted, the spirit is observed by allowing a reasonable and well-planned subdivision. Though the area requirements of zone are small, the context of the subdivision is still within the AG Zone and the two proposed parcels created from the subdivision are well suited for the contextual area. The proposal does not create a density that is a burden on the land or the surrounding infrastructure, and though the frontage requirement is not met all other aspects of the space and bulk standards can be met. The proposal is generally in line with a permitted Porkchop Subdivision and therefore the spirit is observed.
- 3) Granting the variance would do substantial justice because:
  Substantial justice in this case is achieved by allowing a second building lot to be constructed on a proposed 2.12-acre parcel of land without the need for costly infrastructure. The gain to the applicant far outweighs any benefit the public receives from having 150' of frontage for a potential back lot that is otherwise permitted in the zone.
- 4) If the variance were granted, the values of the surrounding properties would not be diminished because:
  - If the variance were granted there is no diminution of property values whereas the proposed use is residential, which is a permitted use in the zone. The proposal has less impact on the land and the project surroundings than other development potentials.



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## 5) Unnecessary Hardship:

- a. Owning the special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area, denial of the variance would result in an unnecessary hardship because:
  - i. No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property because:

Clearly, if reduced frontages are permitted within the ordinance to allow similar development styles, the frontage requirement, in general, is only a construct for basic space and bulk standards to moderate density within specific zones. The lot width created by the required 150' of frontage isn't required in this case due to the design of the subdivision, and therefore does not create a visual overcrowding of the street, which is discouraged. For this reason, there is no substantial relationship that exists between the specific application on this specific parcel of land.

A review of the project site in the context of other properties we find that the parcel is special. Each abutting parcel is either exponentially larger than the subject parcel, which would permit larger major subdivisions, or are too small to be further subdivided or developed. The subject parcel's size is precisely the reason the Porkchop and Flag Lot ordinances exist and permit 50' necks of frontage and therefore is no relationship between the need for 150' of frontage and the specifics of this project site.

The denial of the variance would be an unnecessary hardship to the applicant based on the special conditions of the land. The ordinance allows for special lots to be subdivided using a 50' frontage, however, due to other constraints within the ordinance those provisions either can't be met or are not practical. Denial would require the applicant to pursue larger densities which is specifically being avoided through this request.

ii. The proposed use is a reasonable one because:

The proposed use is reasonable whereas it is the least impacting alternative that is permitted in the zoning ordinance. One 2.12-acre lot within the AG zone that has a reduced frontage and longer



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# driveway is very common and is specifically encouraged within the zoning and master plan.

b. Explain how, if the criteria in subparagraph (A) are not established, an unnecessary hardship will be deemed to exist if, and only if, owning to the special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area, the property cannot be reasonably used in the strict conformance with the ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable reasonable use for it.

The property is special in its total shape and size in the context of all abutting parcels. Each abutting parcel is either sized in a way that future development could be undertaken through a major subdivision or sized in a way that no further development could take place. This parcel is sized and has adequate frontage for a small back lot subdivision to be created through a reduced frontage, which is encourage by the ordinance. The property cannot be reasonably enjoyed in this way without the variance and is therefore a hardship to the applicant.

We hope the board finds this project is worthy of a variance and approves the request. Thank you all for your time and attention this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

BERRY SURVEYING & ENGINEERING

Christopher R. Berry, SIT Principal, President





Tax Map View demonstrating the context of the subject parcel with others in the area.





Photo of the project site where the proposed 50' frontage is proposed to be located



# ZONING

275 Attachment 6

City of Rochester

Table 19-A Dimensional Standards - Residential Districts [Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. II)]

		Lots			Setbacks	icks				Other			Standards, Notes and References
Residential Districts	Minimum Lot Area (square feet)	Minimum Frontage (feet)	Minimum Lot Area/ Dwelling Unit (square feet)	Minimum Front (feet)	Maximum Front (feet)	Minimum Side (feet)	Minimum Rear (feet)	Maximum Building Footprint	Maximum Lot Coverage	Maximum Number of Storics	Minimum Building Height (feet)	Maximum Building Height (feet)	A "—" means there is no dimensional standard for this item
Residential-1 (R1)							201100						
Single-family	10,000	100	Ţ	10		10	20	30%	35%			35	See Article 19, Dimensional Standards
All other uses	10,000	001	ĵ	01		10	20	30%	35%			35	
Residential-2 (R2)													
Single-family	000'9	09	1	01		00	20	30%	35%			35	See Article 19, Dimensional Standards
Two-family	000'6	80	1	01		00	20	30%	45%			35	See Article 19, Dimensional Standards
Three- and four-family	12,000 and 15,000	08	1	15		10	25	30%	%09			35	See Article 19, Dimensional Standards
Five- or more family	30,000	100	5,000 or 7,500	15		01	25	30%	%09			35	See Article 19, Dimensional Standards
All other uses	9,000	80	1	01		00	20	30%	35%			35	
Neighborhood Mixed Use (NMU)													
All uses	000'9	09	ħ	1	25	51	20		%06	Е	20	20	See Article 19, Dimensional Standards
Agricultural (AG)													
Single-family, conventional subdivision, municipal water and sewer	20,000	150	j.	20		01	20	30%	35%			35	See Article 19, Dimensional Standards
Single-family, conventional subdivision, municipal water or sewer	30,000	150	1	20		10	20	30%	35%			35	See Article 19, Dimensional Standards
Single-family, conventional subdivision, neither municipal water nor sewer	45,000	150	1	20		10	20	30%	35%			35	Sce Article 19, Dimensional Standards
Two-family	150% of single	150	1	20		10	20	30%	40%			ŧ	See Article 19, Dimensional Standards
Single-family dwelling - conscrvation subdivision	6,000	09	ī	20		10	20		35%			35	See Article 33, Conservation Subdivisions
All other uses	45,000	150	5,000 or 7,500	20		10	20		40%			35	

NOTES:
Note 1: For loss that adjoin a residential district, the side selback on the side adjoining the residential district shall be the larger of the required side selback in the subject commercial zone or the adjoining residential zone.
Note 2: For loss without both water and sewer, 10,000 square foct of lot area is required per additional dwelling unit beyond one.

## LOT, FLAG

A lot with less than the required frontage on a public road but with sufficient buildable area at the rear. The access area is construed as the "flagpole" with the rear area as the "flag."

# ROCHESTER



## 632 Salmon Falls Road

City of Rochester, NH 1 inch = 200 Feet

400

600

200



www.cai-tech.com

March 25, 2024

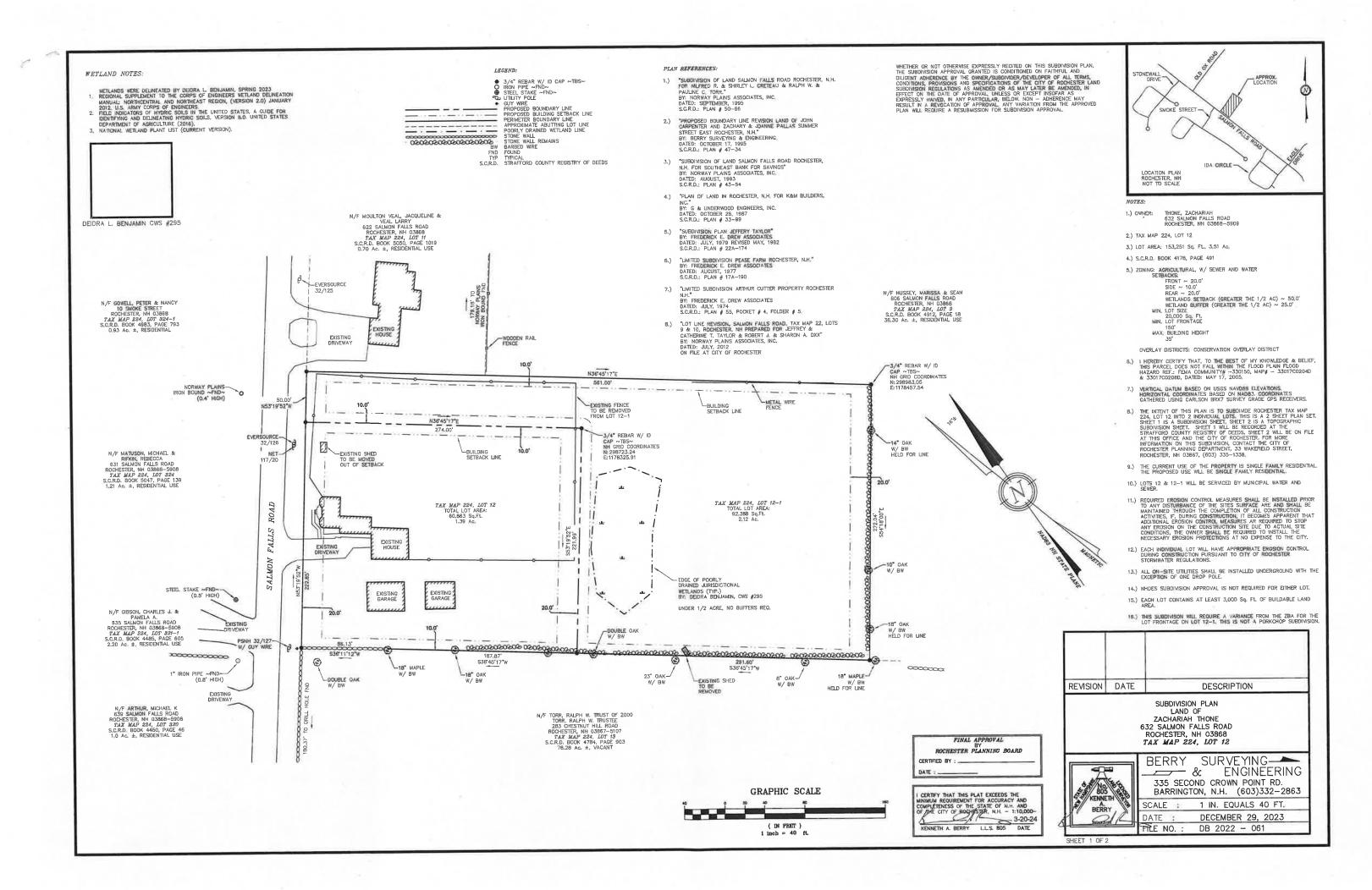


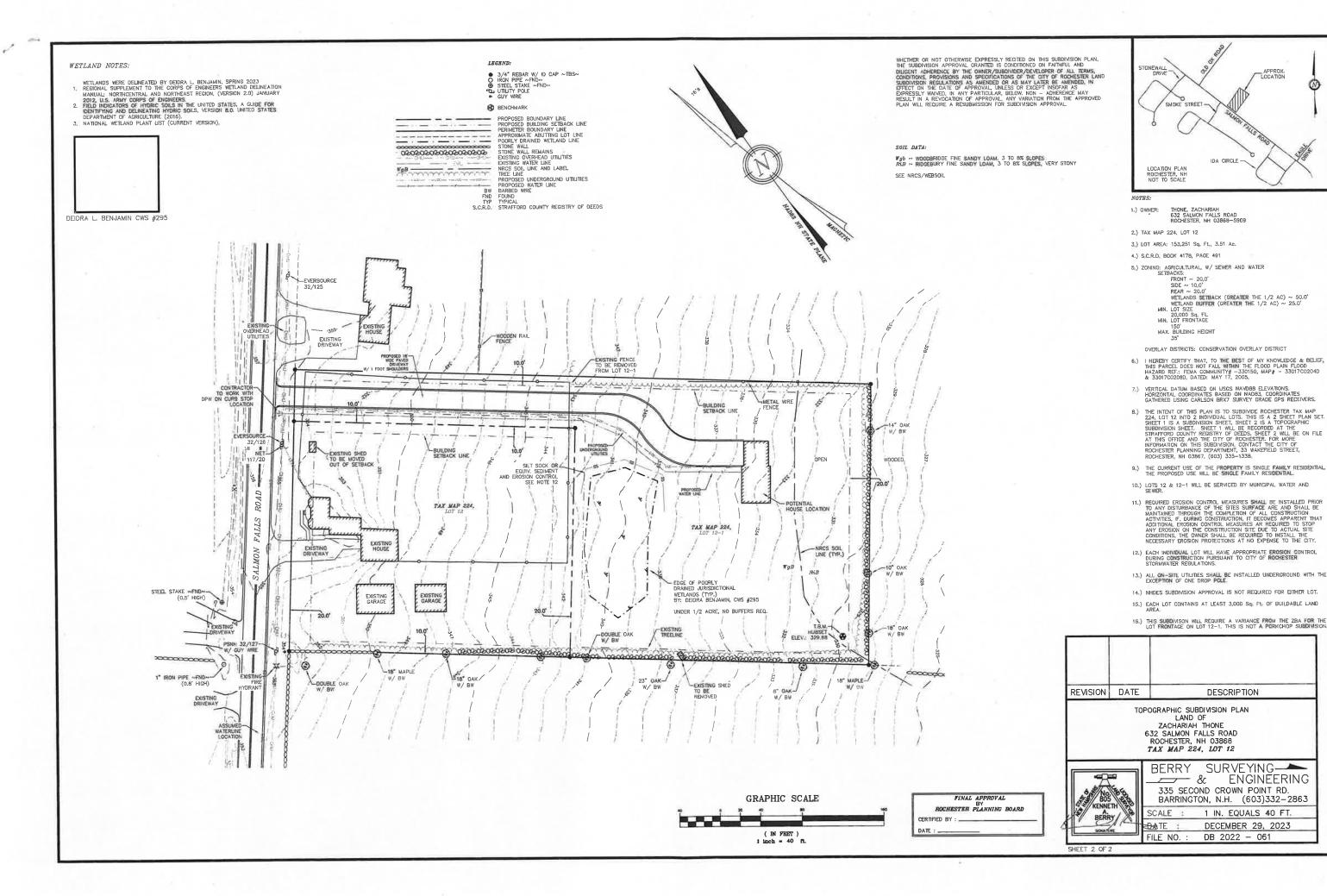
Data shown on this map is provided for planning and informational purposes only. The municipality and CAI Technologies are not responsible for any use for other purposes or misuse or misrepresentation of this map.

| Descri Prior Assesse | BLDG | 144,300 | LAND | 66,500 | OB | 38,100 | 66,500 66,500 144,300 66,500 38,100 214,000 20,000 Permit #: E-19-ADDED DECK SENT LETTER Permit #: 12688 248,900 300,500 Permit #: 10252 Permit #: 10253 Permit #: 10254 300,500 VISION ROCHESTER, NH Land Use 1010 Print Date 11/2/2023 2:25:19 PM Notes Notes Total Land Value otai Total 248,900 To APPRAISED VALUE SUMMARY VISIT / CHANGE HISTORY 60,000 6,500 Current Assesse 214,000 66,500 20,000 Year 2022 Purpost/Result Assessed 300,500 Value EXT ONLY
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Disclaimer: This information is believed to be correct but is subject to change and is not warranteed. 60,000. 2,500.0 3.60 AC UnitPric 03-26-2020 03-31-2016 03-31-2016 03-31-2016 03-19-2014 03-27-2015 03-31-2016 Insp Date 0 CITY WATER R 0 CITY SEWER 0 CTY WTR PBO UTL/ST/TRAF 0 NONE 0 PAVED 1.000 **BOOK/PAGE** 491 323 0 2,000 1,000 Loc Adj 0 MEDIUM 4178 635 0 ωш PRIMARY EXCESS A 632 SALMON FALLS RD Land Type ELECTRIC ELECTRIC PLUMBING PLUMBING RENOVATE RENOVATE ELECTRIC ELECTRIC Description RENOVATE ELECTRIC KITCHEN COX IONA S DESMARAIS ARMAND V & ROSEMARY SALES INFORMATION-GRANTEE 03868-5909 1.000 LandU Permit Id 632 SALMON FALLS RD 돌 SINGLE FA SINGLE FA Description THONE ZACHARIAH E-19-306 THONE ZACHARIAH 10254 10253 10253 10252 10252 10252 2688 Property Location 8084 ROCHESTER 04-21-2015 04-21-2015 04-21-2015 03-28-2014 03-28-2014 04-21-2015 04-21-2015 Issue Date 07-10-2019 01-13-2016 04-21-2015 04-21-2015 1010 1010 CNC a

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335 Second Crown Point Road Barrington, NH 03825 Phone: (603) 332-2863

Fax: (603) 335-4623 www.BerrySurveying.Com

March 20, 2024

#### **Abutters List**

## **Owner of Record**

Tax Map 224, Lot 12

Zachariah Thone 632 Salmon Falls Rd Rochester, NH 03868 Book 4178, Page 491

#### **Abutters**

Tax Map 224, Lot 13

Ralph W Torr Rev Tst Ralph W Torr Tstee 283 Chestnut Hill Rd Rochester, NH 03867 Book 4784, Page 903

#### **Tax Map 224, Lot 9**

Marissa & Sean Hussey 606 Salmon Falls Rd Rochester, NH 03868 Book 4912, Page 018

### Tax Map 224, Lot 11

Jacqueline Veal Mouton Larry Veal 622 Salmon Falls Rd Rochester, NH 03868 Book 5050, Page 1019

## Tax Map 224, Lot 324-1

Nancy Gowell Liv Tst Nancy Lynne Gowell 10 Smoke St Rochester, NH 03868 Book 5140, Page 321

## Tax Map 224, Lot 324

Michael Matuson Rebecca Rifkin 631 Salmon Falls Rd Rochester, NH 03868 Book 5047, Page 139

## Tax Map 224, Lot 321-1

Charles J & Pamela A Gibson 635 Salmon Falls Rd Rochester, NH 03868 Book 4485, Page 605

### **Professionals**

Deidra Benjamin, CWS 100 Leavitt Rd Pittsfield, NH 03263

Kenneth A. Berry PE LLS Christopher R. Berry, Project Manager Berry Surveying & Engineering 335 Second Crown Point Road Barrington, NH 03825



## **BERRY SURVEYING & ENGINEERING**