



PZ Clerk <pzclerk@townofnewlebanon.com>

Fwd: Tilden Project Concerns

1 message

Elizabeth Brutsch <nlpb.brutsch@gmail.com>
To: PZ Clerk <pzclerk@townofnewlebanon.com>

Tue, Sep 9, 2025 at 7:38 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kate MacVeigh** [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Sep 8, 2025, 6:53 PM
Subject: Tilden Project Concerns
To: <nlpb.brutsch@gmail.com>, <nlzba.salem@gmail.com>, <spowers@townofnewlebanon.com>
Cc: <townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com>, <jamlaw@townofnewlebanon.com>, <smetzler@townofnewlebanon.com>, <cskerkis@townofnewlebanon.com>

To the New Lebanon Town Board, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals:

Thank you for posting the letter from the NL school district. I find it concerning that the ZBA did not seem to find any merit in this letter. By closing public comment immediately it does not allow the taxpayers of the NLCSD or the taxpayers to NL to ask any further questions.

Why was there such a rush to close the public comment, especially given the concern of the school?

The school is asking for an examination of the projects affect upon public education, including fiscal, school facility and program impacts with consideration afforded to the overall financial burdens to the New Lebanon CSD. This is not an unreasonable request. This is a very responsible and proactive approach that the district is taking.

Can you please explain to me why the school wasn't shown any respect to their public comment? It has been stated that the projects attorney sited chapters that contradict this letter.

More transparency needs to take place here. Although legally the board may be within ethical standards, although this seems to be challenged by the NLCS attorney, the perception of those of us reading & watching is that there are ethical issues and that this project is being pushed to pass to benefit investors and not the town, it's current residents, or school system.

The NL school deserves more respect than what they were given. If their attorney was mistaken or wrong in any way, then those concerns should be addressed. The moral and ethical thing to do would be to gather more information. Not to CLOSE the public hearing and ignore the letter. Wouldn't you agree?

The NL school district is clearly concerned about this project.

The ZBA, and the planning board owe it to not only the NL taxpayers, but to the taxpayers of the NL school district, which includes the towns of New Lebanon, Canaan, Stephentown, Chatham and East Nassau. These boards will make a decision that will affect more than just the New Lebanon residents. It will affect the NL School, its teachers, the children and the school taxpayers.

It is not a secret that NL school is facing a serious budget shortfall. In last season's budget vote, the community rejected their plea for an increase in taxes. The budget went for a revote and was approved, but for less than they asked for and clearly needed. How can any board in good conscious make decisions that could cripple a school district. Decisions that could have lasting negative financial effects for many years to come.

One area of concern is whether the project will enter a PILOT for taxes. The answer must be known to this question before you as board can approve an area variance, right?

Additional concerns for this project that I don't believe have been fully addressed is the additional burden this will place on EMS services in our town. Eight years ago my brother was in a serious accident that resulted in his death. It took over 25 minutes for the ambulance to get here. Our local fireman responded as did NYSP but they refused to assist as they were not EMTs. Another incident, more recent, in town where a senior fell and it took an hour for an ambulance to respond.

9/9/25, 7:39 PM

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How do we plan on handling 100+ new residents and the increase in traffic which undoubtedly will increase accidents & medical events? Bringing more residents to this small town without infrastructure to support basic needs, like medical support, is irresponsible.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Katie MacVeigh

Sent from my iPhone