



Town of Topsfield  
Fire Headquarters

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Mr. Robert Moriarty, Chair  
Zoning Board of Appeals  
8 West Common St.  
Topsfield, MA 01983

April 20, 2021,

Dear Mr. Moriarty,

The Code Enforcement Team from the Topsfield Fire Department has reviewed the submitted plans for the proposed development at 57 Perkins Row in Topsfield. The Topsfield Fire Department is staffed with two firefighters during the day and typically two firefighters at night. At times the station is unmanned at night and the rest of the Department responds on a as needed call basis. After reviewing these plans, we would like to submit the following for consideration:

We would request that the water main be extended to Route 97. For fire suppression and supply, it makes much more sense to have the water supply looped to be able to protect this development in an efficient manner.

We would request that a hydrant be added in the area of what is listed as # 17 and 18 on the plans submitted. Quick access to the hydrant is important for setting up a water supply for fire suppression and with the extremely limited manpower in the department, another hydrant is needed in that area.

We want to make sure that the box culvert can support the weight of our vehicles, in particular Truck One which weighs over 80,000 pounds.

We would request that the development go through the process set up by the assessor to number the residences.

Our primary concern relates to access to the buildings by fire apparatus. In particular, we are concerned about the turns and negotiating them with our ladder truck. We are concerned that the truck will not be able to negotiate the 30-degree corners. Our ladder truck has a unique wide turn requirement for the rear of the ladder. Due to the size of our trucks and the narrow streets that are proposed, we are requesting no on street parking, no basketball hoops or other items be placed in the street. We are concerned that some of the shrubbery depicted in the drawings may impact the swing of the back of the ladder. We have included the schematics of our Truck One from the manufacturer for the engineers to review and confirm that the truck will fit without obstructions.

Sincerely,

  
Jen Collins-Brown  
Chief of the Department