

Town of Avon

60 West Mai**2024 F** B - 3 AM 10: 33 Avon, Connecticut 06001-3719 (860) 409-4300 • www.arphict.gavarstyne AVON TOWN CLERK

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF AVON

The Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Avon will hold a virtual Public Hearing on Thursday, February 18, 2021 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (EST), via GoToMeeting: Join by web, https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/918539933; or Dial by phone +1 (571) 317-3112, Access Code: 918-539-933#; on the following:

Application of Bennett and Sarah Goss, owners/applicants; requesting from Avon Zoning Regulations, Sections IV. A. 6. and IV. A. 2., a 10-foot variance to the 30-foot rear yard setback for a proposed in-ground pool (20' x 40'), located at 106 Old Mill Road in an R-40 zone.

All interested persons may join and be heard and written communications will be received. Copy of this notice is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, Town Hall. Dated at Avon this 3th day of February, 2021.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Eileen Carroll, Chair Christy Yaros, Vice-chair

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ZBA Virtual Public Hearing Process Via GoToMeeting

Chair calls the public hearing to order.

Town Staff to conduct:

- 1. Attendance of ZBA members: regular members; alternates, appoint as needed.
 - Caller identification of application representatives.
 - Caller identification of any interested public.
- II. Notice was provided in accordance with Town regulations, State Statutes, and recent COVID-19 related Executive Orders; and the Town has notified the abutters to the subject properties as required.
- III. The Avon Zoning Board of Appeals was created as required by Section 8-6 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and functions in accordance with the powers and duties of Section X Administration and Enforcement, C., of the Town of Avon Zoning Regulations.

(If only four members of the board are present at a public hearing, and in the absence of the fifth member, a vote in favor of an application would require a unanimous approval. If the application were not approved by a unanimous vote, the application could be refiled to be heard at a future meeting, after a period of six months. Does/do the applicant(s) agree(s) to proceed with the public hearing? Applicant responds.)

- IV. Summary of agenda. All applications will be heard in the order shown on the agenda and the public hearing will be held on each application. The public hearing will be closed after each application review is complete. Voting will follow after the close of the public hearing for each application on the agenda.
- V. Summary of the application and the accompanying materials, and ask the applicant for any additional input. *Please self-identify for the record before any commentary.
 - Input from owner(s)/applicant(s).
 - Board member comments/questions.
 - Public comments/questions.
 - Any objections to the variance request from abutters, neighbors, or the general public.
 - Any support of the variance request from abutters, neighbors, or the general public.
- VI. Close the public hearing and motion to vote. Member identification tally taken. *Any member who votes against a variance request must state their reason(s) for denial. These statements of denial are required for the record.

Town Staff states: That the granting of the variance will be in harmony with the purposes and intent of these regulations; will accomplish substantial justice; and will not be injurious to the neighborhood or otherwise detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare.

THE PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS ABOVE WILL REPEAT FOR EACH ADDITIONAL APPLICATION.

Other Business:

Town staff will present and address any other business.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is March 18, 2021.

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Second the motion.

Chair states the meeting is adjourned.

N:\Planning\ZBA\PublicHearingProcess\ZBAPublicHearingProcessViaGoToMeeting

TOWN OF AVON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2021, 7:00 P.M.

Virtual Public Hearing VIA GOTOMEETING

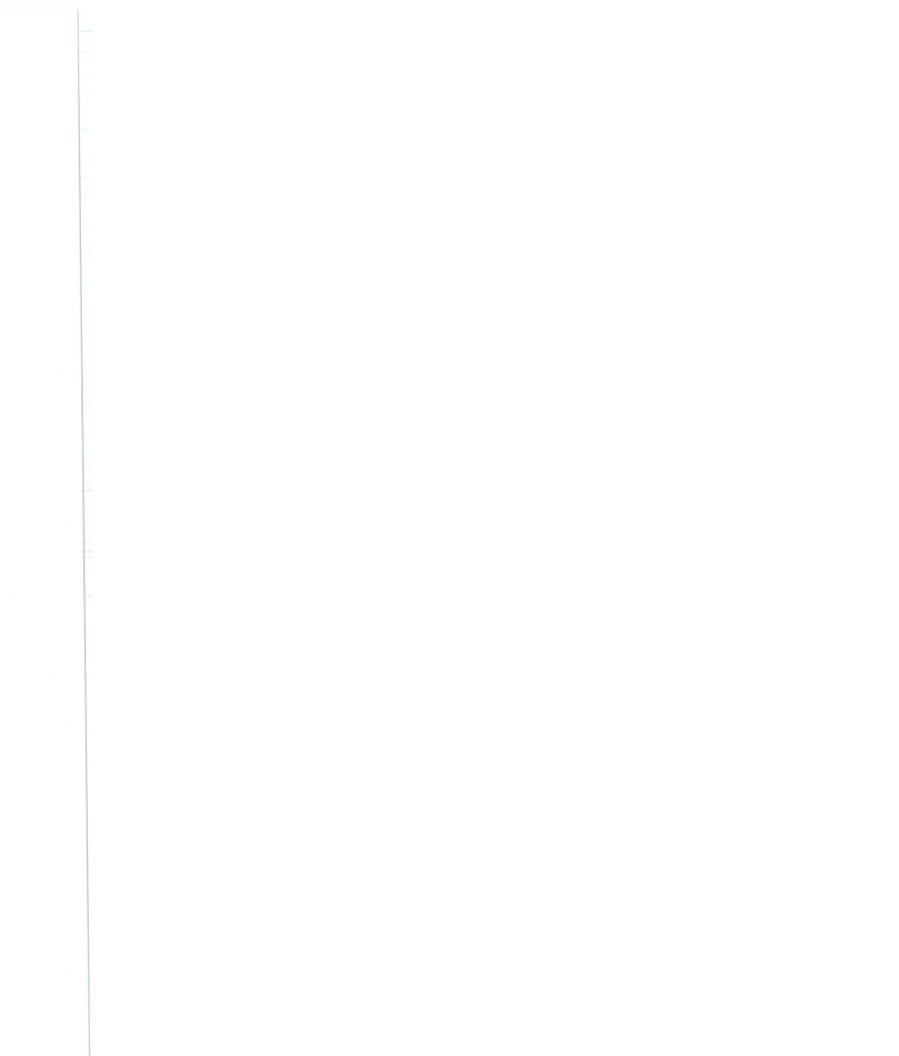
Join by web, https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/918539933; or Dial by phone +1 (571) 317-3112, Access Code: 918-539-933#

AGENDA (scroll downward to see application materials)

I. PUBLIC HEARING:

Application of Bennett and Sarah Goss, owners/applicants; requesting from Avon Zoning Regulations, Sections IV. A. 6. and IV. A. 2., a 10-foot variance to the 30-foot rear yard setback for a proposed in-ground pool (20' x 40'), located at 106 Old Mill Road in an R-40 zone.

- II. OTHER BUSINESS:
- III. NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING: March 18, 2021



TOWN OF AVON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2021, 7:00 P.M.

Virtual Public Hearing VIA GOTOMEETING

Join by web, https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/918539933; or Dial by phone +1 (571) 317-3112, Access Code: 918-539-933#

(scroll downward to see application materials)

Items contained in the agenda packets sent to the Board via electronic submission, and posted on the Town's website <u>avonct.gov</u>, Boards & Committees, Zoning Board of Appeals:

Application of Bennett and Sarah Goss, owners/applicants; requesting from Avon Zoning Regulations, Sections IV. A. 6. and IV. A. 2., a 10-foot variance to the 30-foot rear yard setback for a proposed in-ground pool (20' x 40'), located at 106 Old Mill Road in an R-40 zone.

- Town of Avon ZBA public hearing legal notice, posted to Town of Avon ZBA web page, February 3, 2021.
- Town of Avon ZBA virtual public hearing process via GoToMeeting.
- Town of Avon ZBA agenda with meeting access details and web link, posted to Town of Avon ZBA web page, February 3, 2021.
- Town of Avon ZBA application (one page); and additional applicant-submitted materials including neighbor statements, aerial view and other photographs, maps, plans, and pool plans.
- Email correspondence, between subject property owner and an abutting neighbor, submitted for the record by Bennett Goss.
- Town of Avon Assessor's residential property card.
- Town of Avon GIS maps, including aerial views.
- GIS map of abutting properties to 106 Old Mill Road, and list of properties, that received Town of Avon public hearing notice.
- Multiple views of subject property; photographs taken by Town staff.
- Larger scale survey map, and closer aerial view of subject property.
- Additional neighborhood communications, if received by the Town of Avon.

A full hardcopy set of the application, with supplemental administrative information, is on file and will be retained in the Department of Planning and Community Development.

TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

RECEIVED

Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2021

Owner: Bennett and Sarah Goss Applicant: Bennett and Sarah Goss

Address: 106 Old Mill Rd, Avon, CT 06001 **Telephone number:** 503-929-6326, 917-583-4890

Email Address: bennettgoss@gmail.com, gosssar@gmail.com

JAN 28 2021

Planning Department Town of Avon

LOCATION OF AFFECTED PREMISES

ON THE __south___ SIDE OF THE STREET IN AN R-40 ZONE

ASSESSORS MAP NO.

PARCEL ID. 33801067

VOLUME PAGE 733 396

018 33801067 733 39

Previous appeals have been made with respect to these premises: Date: N/A

This APPEAL: Building Lines

1. SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF VARIANCE REQUEST - (MUST BE SHOWN ON PLOT PLAN)

We would like to place the pool 20 feet from the rear setback line (as apposed to 30 ft) - please see plan.

Please note, we are only applying for a 10 foot variance, however, most of our neighbors have agreed to a 15 food variance.

2. VARIANCE of the following section (s) of the Zoning Regulations is/are requested:

Tim

(a) Why will strict application of the regulation produce UNDUE HARDSHIP

TV .A.

When we chose to move to Avon, we specifically set out to purchase a house with a pool, or a house with enough land to comfortably build a pool within 1 year of moving. Our previous home in Trumbull had a pool and our children have always been on a swim team. We specifically requested that our realtor only show us (i) homes with pools or (ii) homes with land that would allow for the construction of a pool to our specifications. Consequently, it was our understanding that our agent only showed us (i) homes with pools or (ii) homes with land in which a pool to our specifications could be constructed. Upon finding a home for purchase, our realtor obtained a map which demonstrated we could put our specified pool within the setbacks according to town regulation, that would also provide us a safe distance from the house for our children.

After purchasing the home, we contacted the town to obtain information about the permit process and found out that the survey/map provided to us by our realtor was not accurate or to scale. We were out of town buyers relying on the information provided by our realtor. Our realtor had indicated the map provided was from the town. However, after purchasing our home and contacting the town regarding the permit process, we were informed (by personnel at the zoning department) that no one from the town knew where our relator had obtained the map. The map provided to us by our realtor indicated a slightly bigger rear yard (see attached maps) than in reality, which we found out once we had an official survey done for purposes of tree-removal work. We were upset and shocked to have found out that unbeknownst to us, we were provided with an incorrect map which we based the purchase of our home on. The realtor had clearly indicated that the map was obtained from the town.

Without the variance, we would not be able to place the pool as originally expected, and thereby ensuring we have a safe distance from the house for our young family (3 children aged 8,8 and 24 months old) and properly fenced off from a designated play area.

1

Our hardship is as follows:

- 1) We were provided with an inaccurate map of our property by our realtor, which was reportedly given to our realtor by the town. After purchase of our home, and upon official survey of our home, we found out the realtor's map provided to us for purchasing our home was inaccurate and not to scale. The realtor's map we based our home purchase on demonstrated that we had a larger rear yard than in actuality. (see attached map of official survey and map provided by realtor)
- 2) The placement of our home is set much further back on our lot as compared to all our immediate neighbors, as well as the majority of the neighborhood. We have a much larger front yard which is not appropriate for a pool, and had our home not been set as far back like all of our neighbors, we would not be in need of a variance (see attached map of lots of neighboring properties).

(b) Why is this hardship UNIQUE to these premises and not shared by other premises in the neighborhood?

According to the plot maps, our house appears to be set further back on our lot than other neighboring properties along our street, as well as along the street that abuts our rear lot line (Briar Hill). If our house were not set so far back on our lot like neighboring properties, we would not need the variance and would have plenty of room.

The pool needs to be located in an area that can be separated and secure away from the children's play space on the other side of the backyard. Other neighbors may not have a desire to have a pool, or may not have young children that they need to ensure a pool is safely set off to one side of the yard and separated from the play area with proper fencing.

(c) This variance would not change the CHARACTER OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD because:

The placement of the pool 20 feet from rear setback line should have no effect on our neighbors. There will be a privacy fence around the perimeter of the back yard, which will be near our lot lines regardless of where the pool is located. Additionally, beyond our rear lot line is a completely wooded area. Again, regardless of pool location, the same privacy fence will be installed, and that is what will be visible to the neighbors.

There are several homes within our neighborhood that have pools. Building a pool within our property would be completely consistent with the character of our neighborhood, and others that have chosen to construct a pool on their property.

3. I HEREBY APPEAL from the decision of the Building Inspector for (denying/issuing) permit.

4. The undersigned warrants the truth of all statements contained herein and in all supporting documents to the best of his knowledge and belief. Furthermore, the applicant agrees that submission of this application constitutes permission for and consent to Board and Town Staff inspections of the site or proposed activity.

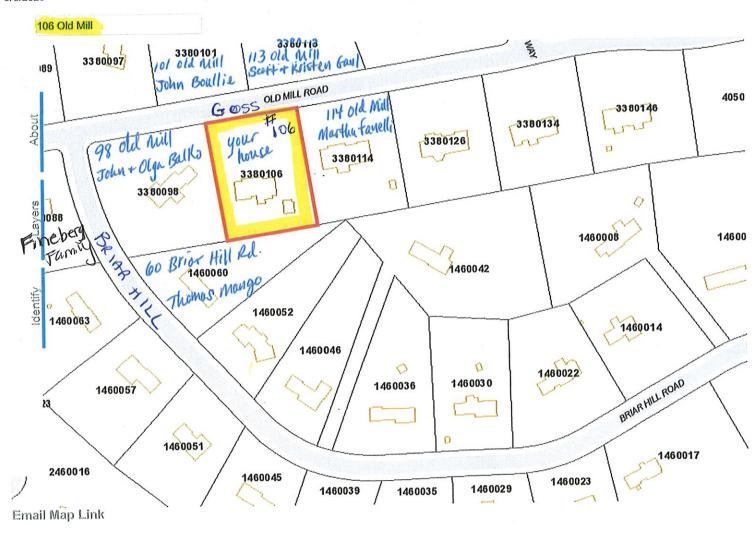
Signatures Sarah Goss
Svar Goss
Bend

Thank you,			
Signature Salko			
Name:	JOHN BALKO		
Address:	98 OLD MILL ROAD		
	AVON, CT. 06001		
Phone:	(860) 675-7518		
Email:	JOBALKO@COMCAST. NET		

i nank you	,
Jen Mus	ru Funelli ignature Funeli
Name:	James & Martha Fanelli
Address:	114 Old Mill Ref
	Avon CT 06001
Phone:	860-930-9662
Email:	Janelli 13 eg mail·com

Thank you	
Kotu	signature
Name:	Latie and Mark Fineberg
Address:	88 Old Mill Rd
	Avon, CT OGOGI
Phone:	617-512-4078
Email:	fineberg Keyahar, com

Thank you,	
signature	Signature
Name: John & Coni Boullie	
Address: 101 Old Mill Rd	
Auon, CT OGW1-4	1000
Phone: 860-321-7123	
Email: <u>do HN. Boulle a yn</u> Lori. Boullie a gman	hoo com



Copy ar aste the following string into an email to link to the current map view:

Scale: 1" =

Close 40m

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Print Map

Size:

ft. Title:

Close Print

HARDSHIP

Please Note how far back our house is on our lot compared to all neighboring paperties on Old Mill Rd. and Briar Hill. We are the furthest set back.

Telestone

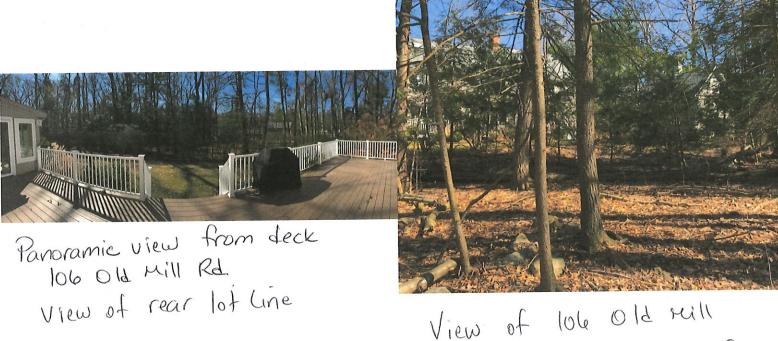
lat:41.7936, long:-72.8775



106 OLD MELL JUME



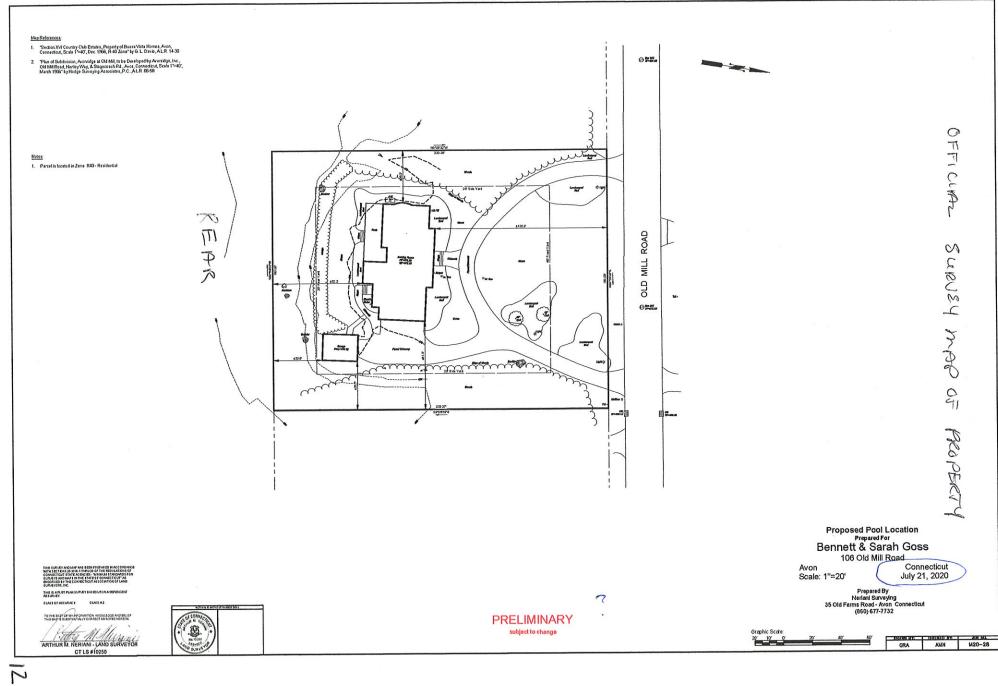
View of rear of lot 106 012 Mill



View of lob old rall from wooded area near rear lot line.

Privacy Fence to be installed





location

pasodar d

Safety

variance,

Date JAN, 13, 2021 Dawing Title VARIANCE PLAN

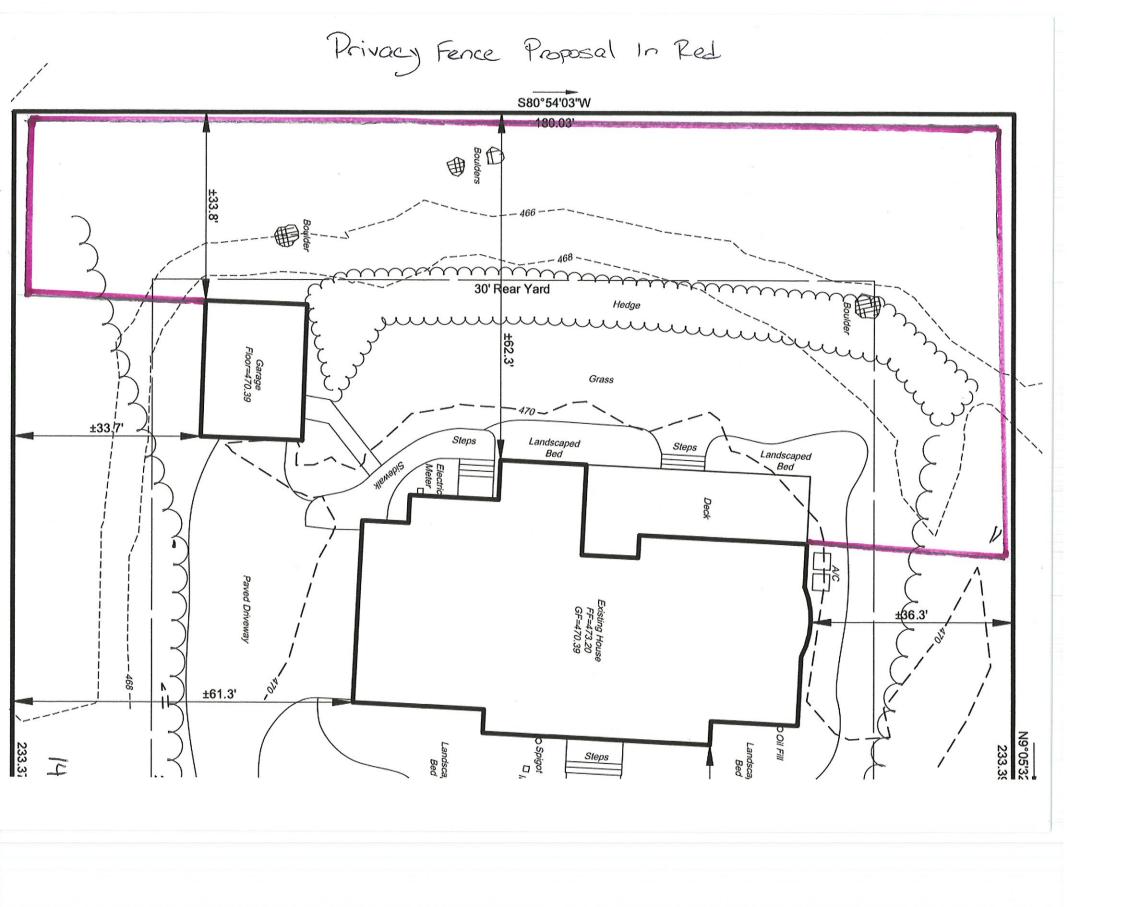
> Goss Residence 106 Old Mill Rd. Avon Connecticut

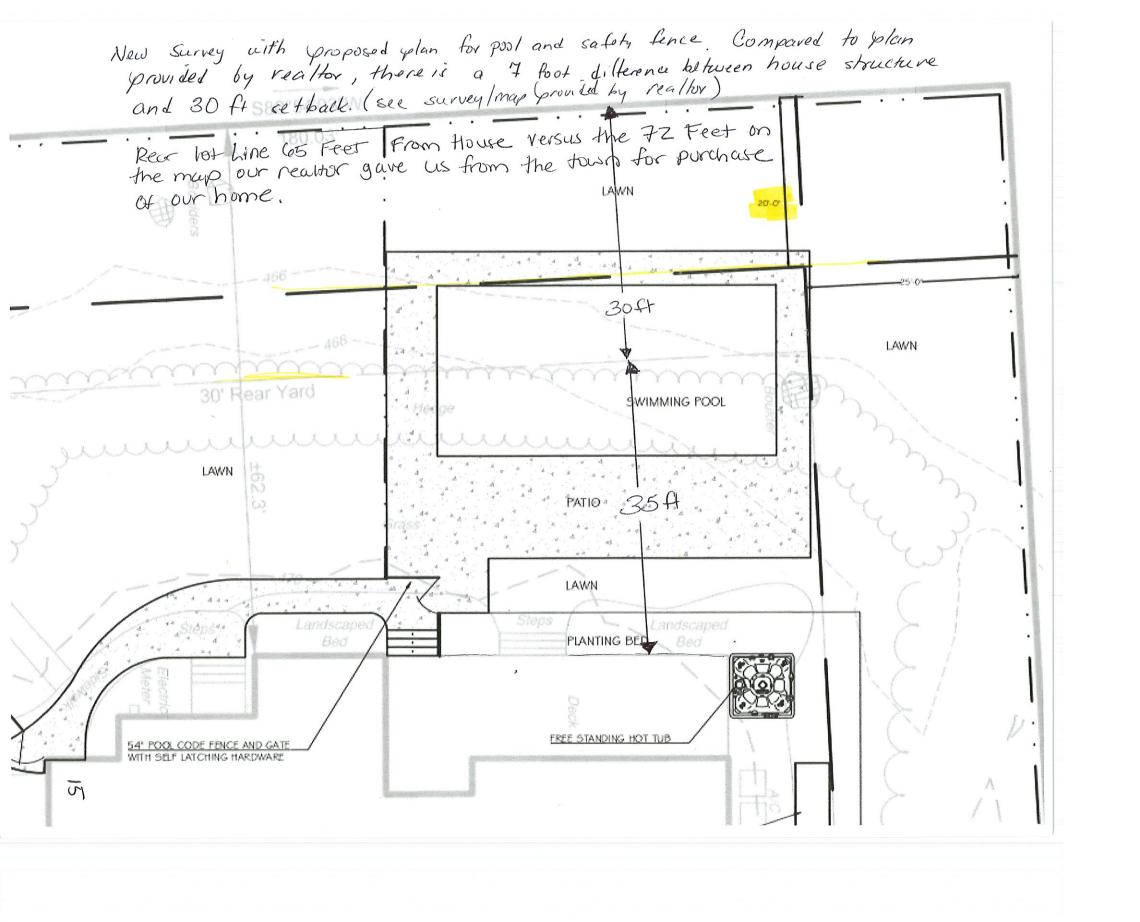
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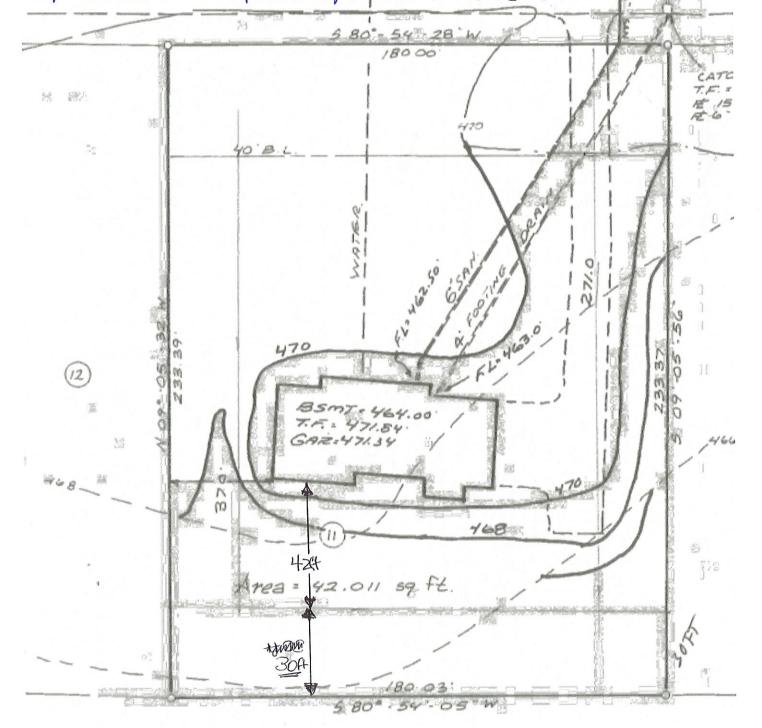
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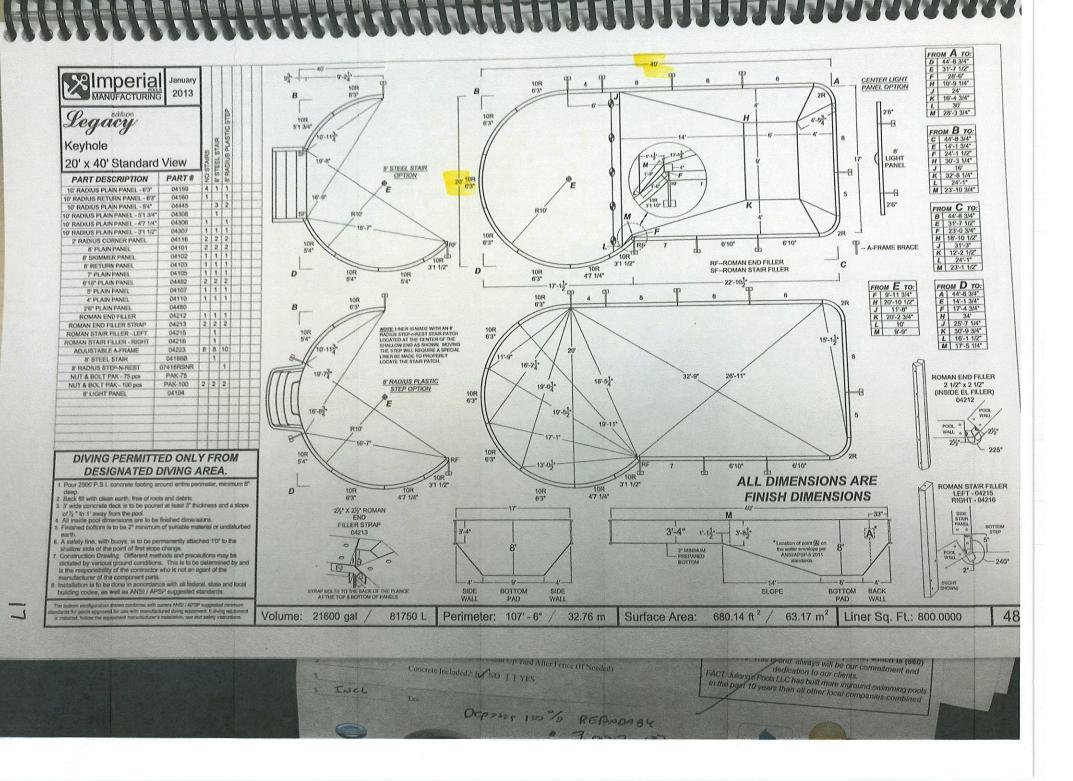




Realtor MAP

Hap Provided by Realton For the purchase of our home-106 old mill Rd. Reportedly received from town. As previously world in applications, map is incorrect, not to scale, and represents a larger backyard space than professioner Surveyors map. Rear lot time 72 Feet From House.





Susan Guimaraes

From:

John McCahill

Sent:

Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:08 AM

To:

Bennett Goss; gosssar Susan Guimaraes

Cc: Subject:

RE: [External] 106 Old Mill Rd - Application for Variance

Greetings Bennett,

Acknowledging receipt of the email chain noted below. At your request, this will become part of your application. I've Cc'd Susan, as she is the Clerk to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Best Regards, John McC

From: Bennett Goss [mailto:bennettgoss@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:37 PM

To: John McCahill <JMCCAHILL@avonct.gov>; gosssar <gosssar@gmail.com>

Subject: [External] 106 Old Mill Rd - Application for Variance

Hi John...

I just wanted to give you an update regarding our application for a variance regarding pool placement on our property. While we have applied for a 10 foot variance, most of our immediate neighbors (and a couple more we have had the opportunity to meet) have agreed to and signed a letter regarding an application for a 15 foot variance. However, we are aware the Mango family, located at 60 Briar Hill Rd. has voiced their concerns about our application for a variance.

We have reached out to the Mango family several times regarding their concerns and I have asked to meet with them in person (on more than one occasion) to discuss the issue further. The Mango family has preferred to address this only through emails and has been unwilling to make themselves available. My most recent communication attempted to address each and every one of their concerns in order to alleviate their apprehension towards our application for a variance of 10 feet. Originally we were going to request a 15-foot variance which as mentioned, all other neighbors have agreed to. We decided to reduce the variance request to 10 feet in a good faith effort to try to minimize the Mango's concerns, as that is really the minimum amount needed (and is based on hardship as explained in our application).

I would like to give you a copy of the emails between our two families to be included in our application. I believe this will help the Planning and Zoning Commision come to a determination on our application, hopefully in our favor as we have done everything we can to try to have discussions with them (as we did with all other neighbors) for the purpose of addressing their concerns to the best of our ability. Ideally we would have found common ground prior to the Commission's meeting on February 18th. Perhaps there is still an opportunity to do so. As you will see per the below email thread, we feel we could have easily resolved their concerns if they had given us the opportunity to meet with them and discuss our plans, as all the other neighbors have done.

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Please let me know if this can be included in our variance application for review, as we feel it is very helpful for the decision making process and to understand the Mango's concerns and how they will be addressed. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully, Bennett Goss 106 Old Mill Rd. 503-929-6326

Sent 2/1/2021

Hi Tom and Beth, Thank you for your response. I would like to go through your concerns one by one and clarify how we can address them. if after reading this, you would like to meet to view our plans, I am more than happy to review them with you in person.

1) "The first being that we are very concerned that building a pool closer to our property than allowed will decrease the overall value of our property."

- We can only surmise your other concerns which you noted below such as noise, privacy, drainage, etc. all relate to your concern for your property value. These are all addressed below.
- In Summary, regarding noise; noise levels are regulated by town ordinances and all residents must comply even residents with pools. Pool equipment will not be placed within the rear 30-foot setback regardless of a variance. Drainage issues will be addressed with a licensed and certified landscape architect. A well respected and experienced pool company will construct the pool; they will build the pool and address proper drainage as required by building and zoning codes. These concerns will all be handled by the appropriate licensed professionals and go through the town permit process.
- The same view will exist regardless of pool placement. Your family or a future buyer of your property will have a view of your rear wooded area and our privacy fence placed within our lot lines. You likely won't even be able to see the pool at ground level.
- You will have the same privacy regardless of pool placement (again, this being due to the privacy fence being in the same location regardless of pool location).
- The same noise level will exist regardless of pool placement (we can utilize the entirety of our lot including rear 30-foot setback)
- There is no clear evidence that a pool in a neighbor's yard will devalue another neighbor's property. As you know, property
 value is very complicated, subjective, and predicated on current market conditions. It is impossible to know what one potential
 buyer's preferences are versus another buyer, and your home value will primarily be based on your home and property, rather
 than a neighboring property.
- Upon research and consultation with professional realtors, factors more likely to reduce market value based on a neighbor's
 property include the following: unkempt land or home, foreclosure of a neighboring property, or if a neighbor has a criminal
 background. A neighbor positioning a pool 20 feet versus 30 feet from the rear or their property should not affect the market
 value of your home or property.
- 2) "Second, we are concerned it will decrease the privacy, use and enjoyment of our backyard."
 - There will be a privacy fence surrounding our rear lot. The fence will be opaque and therefore will not reduce your privacy, but
 rather, should actually enhance it. Not only will you have the privacy that your wooded area creates, but now you will also have
 the added "buffer" of our privacy fence.
- 3) "We have concerns about noise level, including the pool pump being that much closer to our home. "
 - The pool equipment will not be be within the 30-foot rear setback and 25-foot side setbacks. Our plans include the equipment
 placed within the regular zoning requirements. Therefore, this will have no additional effect on noise levels and will be a nonissue.
 - Regardless of pool placement, our children will still enjoy playing in the entirety of our backyard. They may use our entire lot
 and backyard, inclusive of the 30-foot setback: running, playing, laughing and other general frivolity. The noise levels on our
 rear 30-feet can only be controlled by the town ordinances, and has nothing to do with pool placement. We hope your children
 will also enjoy the entirety of your property as long as you live in this neighborhood.
 - Every town has a noise ordinance that everyone must obey and we will certainly be within compliance. Our prior home had an in-ground pool. Our homes were situated much closer than here in Avon, and there was never a single complaint for the 7 and a half years we lived there.
 - Being in a family neighborhood, we love to know that other families are having fun.
- 4) "After consulting with a Civil Engineer, we also have concerns about changes in surface and ground water distribution, since we sit much lower than your home and currently experience a large amount of runoff."
 - There are town building regulations that require homeowners to ensure proper drainage as it relates to pool construction.
 - We have consulted the services of a landscape architect and have also relayed this hypothetical issue to the very reputable
 pool company contracted to build our pool to ensure this is looked at closely. Again, we have retained licensed professionals
 that will be obtaining proper permits and installing everything as per building code and regulations.

- 5) "We believe it could be difficult to sell our property to the next homeowner if it is burdened with an encumbrance such as this variance."
 - I assume you are concerned about your above listed concerns (noise, privacy, drainage) could pose an *encumbrance* on the sale of your property. However, these concerns were already addressed above in detail.
- 6) "We informed you about our planned move simply so you had additional transparent information in order for you to decide how to optimally move forward, which could include reaching out to the next homeowner with this variance request."
 - I am not sure if you have a current buyer. You had mentioned to wait for the next homeowner to discuss an approval for a variance. However, it could take months or longer to find the right buyer for your house. We know this not only through personal experience of recently selling and buying, but also from watching the market. We cannot wait for some hypothetical buyer at some hypothetical point in time. Sellers often list and then decide to take their home off market and re-list again later for various reasons. We have seen many homes go through many cycles of listing and re-listing while trying to find the right buyers and trying to "refresh" their listing if it becomes "stale". Waiting for a new owner would pose an undue hardship and hold us "hostage" for an undefined time period, which could be several months to several years.

We are aware of your concern about our original intent to obtain a 15 foot variance. In good faith, we are now only requesting a 10 foot variance (instead of 15 feet) from the Town of Avon. As a result, if the town grants us a variance, the pool would be 20 feet from our shared rear lot line.

I hope by reviewing our responses to each and every one of your concerns, you will feel more comfortable with our plans. I am sure you are aware that it is up to the town Board of Zoning and Planning to decide whether or not to grant us a variance; not all neighbors need to approve. Again, if you wish to meet in person to review our plans, I am more than happy to do so. This way, I could address your concerns immediately rather than by email.

All the best to you and your family, Bennett Goss

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mango, Tom" < TMango@CantorColburn.com>

Subject: RE: Goss Backyard Project Date: January 28, 2021 at 3:14:15 PM EST

To: 'BENNETT GOSS' < bennettgoss@me.com >, Beth Mango < bennett@hotmail.com >, Sarah Goss

<gosssar@gmail.com>

Hi Bennett and Sarah,

Thank you for your email.

We've copied and pasted in our previous email exchange below to be sure there is no confusion between that string of communication and this new one you have started.

We are in no way objecting to the construction of your pool and at no time have stated such, and, therefore, we are surprised by this new email string. We fully respect your right to construct a pool on your property within the Town of Avon Zoning bylaws, regulations and ordinances, including a required 30-foot setback from neighboring properties.

Our last two responses simply stated we cannot agree to your requested 15-foot variance. We did respond that we'd look at your plans and asked you to email them to us (vs. your initial offer to show them to us at an in-person meeting), but at this time we have not received the plans from you.

The concerns we listed in our prior emails (i.e., noting potential property devaluation, additional noise, as well as potential drainage concerns as our home sits much lower than yours) are only related to your variance request, i.e., to having a pool closer to our property than allowed by the 30-foot setback. We understand the 30-foot setback to be a mechanism put in place to insure against concerns such as these stated by us and we would like it followed.

We informed you about our planned move simply so you had additional transparent information in order for you to decide how to optimally move forward, which could include reaching out to the next homeowner with this variance request. At no time did we express concern about pool construction during the sale of our home. The timing at which you construct your pool is your right and your business.

Again, we are sorry to hear you were given incorrect information about your property size and lines at the time of your home purchase. However, we cannot be responsible to sacrifice our property rights due to this alleged third party error.

We have lived at this home now for 15 years and Avon is a wonderful community and this is a fantastic private neighborhood. Yes, I'm sure we will continue to see you in town over the years and at mutual activities for our

)



children.

Again, respectfully, our opposition to a 15-foot variance is simply to protect our property rights, as well as those of the future homeowner.

Thank you,

Beth and Tom Mango

Thomas J. Mango Partner Cantor Colburn LLP

20 Church Street | 22nd Floor | Hartford, CT 06103-3207 Work: 860-286-2929 | Fax: 860-286-0115 | Mobile: 860-508-4657 tmango@cantorcolburn.com www.cantorcolburn.com

HARTFORD WASHINGTON, D.C. ATLANTA HOUSTON DETROIT

-----Original Message----From: BENNETT GOSS [mailto:bennettgoss@me.com]
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2021 9:13 PM
To: Mango, Tom; Beth Mango; Sarah Goss
Subject: Goss Backyard Project

Hi Tom and Beth,

Thank you for responding to my email. I just wanted to further clarify the situation. On September 19, 2020, well in advance of being informed about your plans to move (per your email dated January 20, 2021), Sarah and I signed a contract to construct our pool for this April. Barring weather related issues, we plan on continuing the construction of our pool. We are requesting a variance just regarding placement of the pool (the variance does not determine if the pool will be going in). The variance is primarily related to safety measures for the children. We merely wanted to shift the pool 10-15 feet. I am sure you can understand providing for additional safety concerns being the parents of 4 children yourselves. In essence, the question is only a matter of shifting the pool by approximately 10 feet, it is not a matter of whether or not the pool will be constructed.

In summary, this is just a friendly discussion regarding our pool being in one location versus 10 feet further away from our house to address safety concerns for our 3 children. Based on your prior emails, it seems your biggest concern is resale during our pool construction. Perhaps if we meet, we can further discuss and find a solution that meets both of our needs. I do think it would be a good idea to meet to discuss further if you have any interest.

We hope you and your family are staying in this wonderful community, and who knows, maybe our children will be in the same activities together in the future.

Thank you, Bennett 503-929-6326

-----Original Message-----From: Mango, Tom Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 5:55 PM To: 'BENNETT GOSS' Cc: Sarah Goss Subject: RE: Backyard Project

Hi Bennett,

Thank you for your email and suggestion. We have been straight-out busy today and we have a full day tomorrow so we cannot schedule in a meeting. Our suggestion would be to take pictures of the plans and email them to me. We will review them and can provide any additional comments to you next week.

Given our expressed concerns, consultation with various professionals about this request, and our plans to sell our home, we want to be upfront with you that we feel strongly in our decision not to consent to the variance.

Again, perhaps the future homeowners would feel differently and we suggest that you raise the variance request with whoever buys our home.

Best regards, Tom

Thomas J. Mango Partner Cantor Colburn LLP

20 Church Street | 22nd Floor | Hartford, CT 06103-3207 Work: 860-286-2929 | Fax: 860-286-0115 | Mobile: 860-508-4657 tmango@cantorcolburn.com www.cantorcolburn.com

HARTFORD WASHINGTON, D.C. ATLANTA HOUSTON DETROIT

----Original Message-----

From: BENNETT GOSS [mailto:bennettgoss@me.com]

Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2021 9:08 PM

To: Mango, Tom Cc: Sarah Goss

Subject: Re: Backyard Project

Thank you for getting back to us. I was wondering if you had any time Friday or Saturday to discuss this further. I could show you our plans which might help to reduce your concerns. Please let me know what your availability. Thank you and have a pleasant evening.

Bennett

On Jan 20, 2021, at 5:37 PM, Mango, Tom < TMango@cantorcolburn.com > wrote:

Hi Bennett,

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family are doing well.

Thank you for your emails. We appreciate you confirming that you are no longer interested in cutting down the tree that is on both of our properties. Thank you.

We are very sorry to hear that an incorrect map was relied on when you decided to purchase this home.

We are unable to consent to the 15-foot requested variance due a variety of concerns. The first being that we are very concerned that building a pool closer to our property than allowed will decrease the overall value of our property. Second, we are concerned it will decrease the privacy, use and enjoyment of our backyard. We have concerns about noise level, including the pool pump being that much closer to our home. After consulting with a Civil Engineer, we also have concerns about changes in surface and ground water distribution, since we sit much lower than your home and currently experience a large amount of runoff. We believe it could be difficult to sell our property to the next homeowner if it is burdened with an encumbrance such as this variance. Therefore, we cannot consent to the variance and we will need to oppose it if you file an application with the Town of Avon.

In trying to think how this may work out best for you, we wanted to let you know that we are planning to list our house this spring. We suggest that once the sale goes through, you approach the new owners and ask them for the variance. They may be more willing to consider it than we are. This would avoid the hassle of a dispute at the Planning and Zoning Commission, and, if the new owners agree, then you would have the space that is optimal for your needs.

Please let me know if you would like to discuss this further over the phone.

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Best regards, Tom

Thomas J. Mango Partner Cantor Colburn LLP

20 Church Street | 22nd Floor | Hartford, CT 06103-3207 Work: 860-286-2929 | Fax: 860-286-0115 | Mobile: 860-508-4657

tmango@cantorcolburn.com www.cantorcolburn.com

HARTFORD WASHINGTON, D.C. ATLANTA HOUSTON DETROIT

----Original Message-----

From: BENNETT GOSS [mailto:bennettgoss@me.com]

Sent: Friday, January 15, 2021 8:05 AM

To: Mango, Tom Cc: Sarah Goss

Subject: Backyard Project

Hi Tom and Beth, Hi Tom and Beth, the last email I sent had a couple of typos and I wanted to correct them. Sorry if

there is any confusion.

I hope you and your family are doing well and had a nice holiday season.

I wanted to update you about our backyard project.

We have decided not to remove the tree shared between both of our properties, as we understand this is important to you and your family and thought it best to leave it. We would like to be friendly and respectful neighbors, and hopefully even get to hang out and get to know each other better once the pandemic is behind us.

When we moved to Avon, we had looked primarily for homes with inground pools but were not able to find a home that met our needs and also had an inground pool. When we saw our house, we knew it met our needs, with the exception of a pool. The other criteria if the home did not have a pool, was for our realtor to find a home that had a rear lot that could accommodate the construction of a pool. Prior to our purchase of 106 Old Mill, we obtained a map/survey from our realtor's team, which they reportedly obtained from the town to make sure we could place a pool safely and comfortably within our property lines and setbacks (while also providing a separate and safe play space for our children). In addition to obtaining this map, we also had a pool company review the property and the map, and they assured us we could build the pool to our specifications in a safe and comfortable location apart from a play area. We were from out of town so we relied upon our realtors to assist us in performing our due diligence. As a result of this information, we moved forward with the purchase of our home. However, over the course of planning our pool project, we found out we had less usable backyard space for the placement of our pool than previously represented by the map/survey presented to us by our realtor's team (which per the town, and unbeknownst to us, was not an official map and not to-scale). We then had a formal survey performed to make sure we had a proper map to-scale of our lot. After reviewing the survey and consulting with landscape architects, our rear lot has less room than originally indicated by the incorrect map provided to us. It has been advised by our landscape architect that for safety (proximity to deck and fencing issues), that an extra 15 feet from our house on our lot would be optimal for our needs.

Typically there is a 30 feet rear setback for the placement of a structure/pool. Based on our needs, the pool would best be placed 15 feet from the rear setback. Again, we had initially planned on placing our pool at or near this particular location but we are currently unable to do so based on the setbacks. The town advised us to apply for a variance to change our lot setback to 15 feet. As per our previous talks, we will still be placing a privacy fence within our property lines for both safety and any privacy concerns for your family's benefit as well as ours. (Privacy fences are not required typically only a safety fence directly around the pool.) The town indicated that there will likely be no issues or barriers to placing our pool in our planned location of 15 feet from our rear setback.

At the recommendation of the town, after they explained the variance application process to us, we

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are personally reaching out to our neighbors to inform them of our plans with our property. We have already reached out to our other neighbors on either side who have approved of our application for a variance. We believe this plan should not cause your family any type of hardship with the enjoyment of your own property, since our privacy fence will still be placed in the same location regardless of where the pool is. You would still have the same privacy afforded to your family, and the same view of your wooded area with our fence behind it. If there are no major objections to moving our pool 15 feet closer to our rear lot line, we are requesting that you and Beth provide us with a signed note indicating no objection to the town granting us our variance. We can place a simple letter in your mailbox to make it easier and more convenient for you or whatever method is easiest for you, please let us know. We know you may need some time to think about this, but if you could provide this by January 20th as we are trying to compile all our paperwork for the town in a timely manner.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Hopefully this summer the COVID pandemic will start to lessen and we can have you and your family over for a barbecue and swimming.

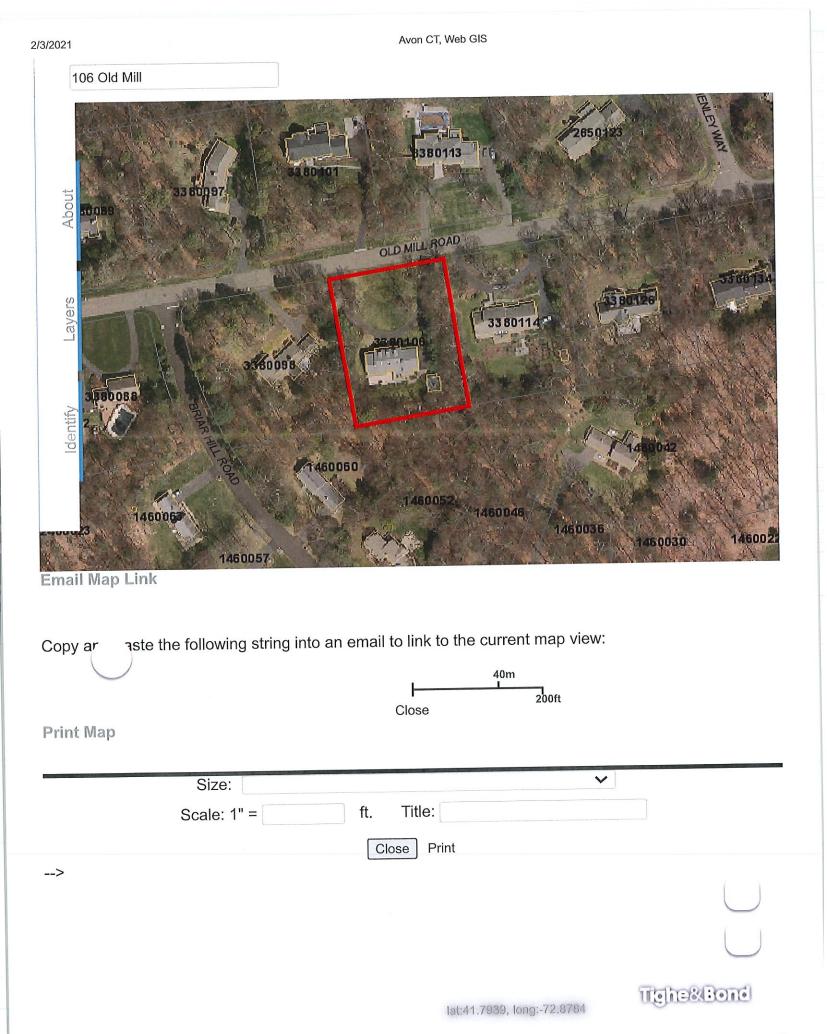
Thank you, Bennett Goss 503-929-6326

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END OF APPLICATION AS SUBMETTEN

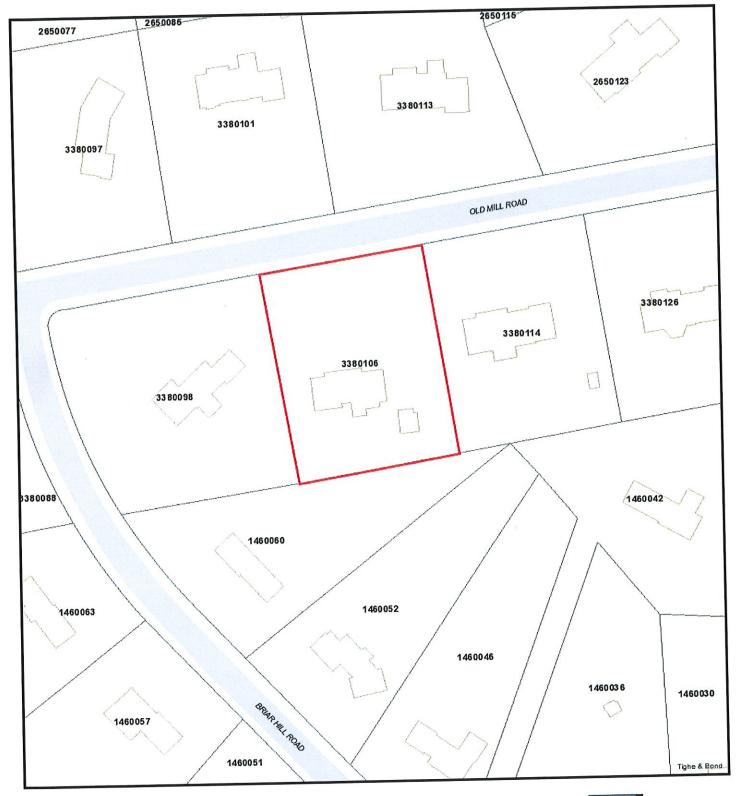
Card 01 of 01 card Town of Avon Residential Property Card						
Property at 00106 OLD MILL ROAD	Prop ID 3380106 Printed 03-Feb-2020 2:20 PM Design and Layout (C) Right/Ang					
Owner name: GOSS BENNETT & SARAH Second name:	Building Valuation Summary Area Dwelling Frame 2 story w/bsmt 1,941 330,420					
Address: 106 OLD MILL ROAD Zip: 06001 Map: 018 Clerk map:	Basement Full Heating Yes A/C Yes 10,01 Plumbing 4 F/B 2 H/B 4 Add'l fix. 1 Wh/p Saunas 20,10 Attic Fully finished w/WH Attic size: 950 26,81: Additions 111,34					
Assessments Exemptions Last sa	e Other Features Mason Trim WB Stks RR 39,86					
Resident Land .92 94,500 Sale price: Resident Dwellng 1.00 355,310 Sale valid: Resident Excess .04 230 Resident Outbldg 1.00 7,530 Mkt value: Cost value:	665,000 Sub-Total 538,55 Grade A- Factor 1.4500 780,900 CDU C&D Factor 1.00 780,900 Depreciation 35 % 507,59 Computed cost value @ 70% 355,31					
Summary Utilities Sales rate Total assessments 457,570 Water Avon Cost/sale :	.9830 Building additions					
Total exemptions Net assessment 457,570 Sewer Public sewer Mkt/sale: Assmt/sale:	Category Type Area Val G Garages FRL Attached frame GT 65 672 22,3 G Garages FSF Full-story fin o/gar 672 33,3					
PRIM 11 .920 135,000 135,000 135,000 94,5	L Living Area AIR Air conditioning 672 1,5 L Living Area FRFF Frame first floor 120 10,1 L Living Area FRFF Frame upper full 120 7,4 L Living Area FRFF Frame upper full 120 7,4 L Living Area FRFF Frame trist floor 80 6,7 P Porches, Patios, Decks FFFF Frame enclosed first 256 18,0 P Porches, Patios, Decks DECK Wood deck 532 10,4 L Living Area OVER Frame Overhang 8 5 L Living Area AIR Air conditioning 320 7					
.964 acres Total land value 135,330	94,731					
Residential Dwelling Information Subject Code Description Condominium Style 04 Colonial Exterior Walls 01 Clapboards Roof Material 01 Asphalt Shingles Roof Type 01 Gable Foundation 01 Powed Concrete Total Rooms 12 Garage cars	Total additions 111,3					
Interior Walls 02 Drywall Bedrooms 6 Unfinished a	ea .					
Family Rooms 1 Dormer linea	sf 656 B2 Description Wid Len Area Rate Year Cnd RCN Depr Value 950 RG1 Frame or Con 18 24 432 32.10 2008 A 21,494 50 10, 5,832 Block Detach Garage					
Interior Cond 05 Good Exterior Cond 05 Good Actual Year Built: 1988	Value at 70% 7,525 Value at 100% 10,					

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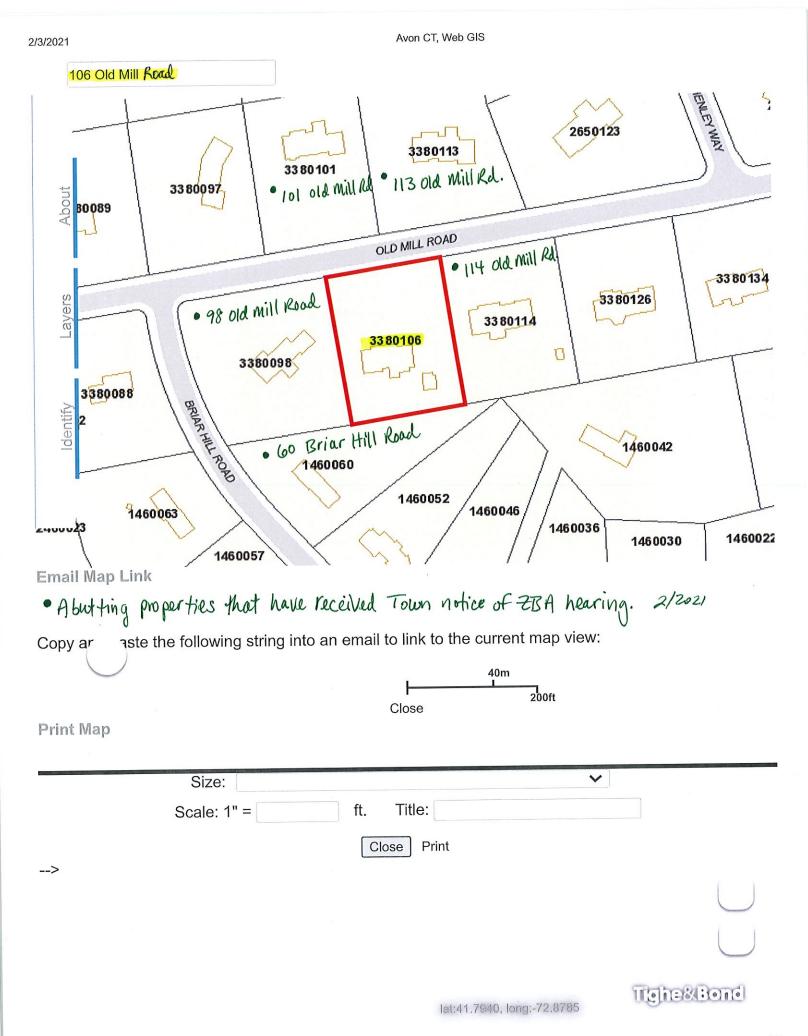


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1/1



2650077 2650086 2650115 2650123 3380101 3380101 OLD MILL ROAD
3380126
1460063 1460052 1460057 3RARAMARAQO 1460051 1460051 1460051
106 Old Mill 12/28/2020 8:00:45 PM Scale: 1"=100' Scale is approximate The information depicted on this map is for planning purposes only. It is not adequate for legal boundary definition, regulatory interpretation, or parcel-level analyses.



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1/1

TOWN OF AVON ZBA

Variance Requested:

Application of Bennett and Sarah Goss, owners/applicants; requesting from Avon Zoning Regulations, Sections IV. A. 6. and IV. A. 2., a 10-foot variance to the 30-foot rear yard setback for a proposed in-ground pool (20' x 40'), located at 106 Old Mill Road in an R-40 zone.

NOTICE TO ABUTTING PROPERTY OWNERS, MAILED FEBRUARY 4, 2021:

98 Old Mill Road

101 Old Mill Road

113 Old Mill Road

114 Old Mill Road

60 Briar Hill Road



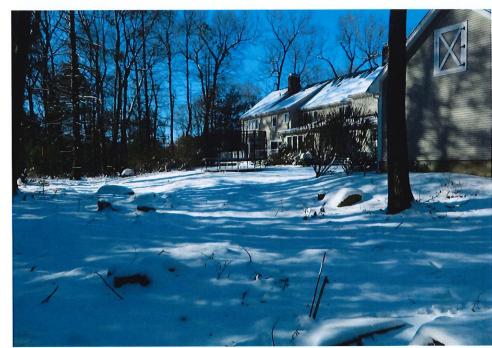
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106 OLD MILL JAME









1/28/21

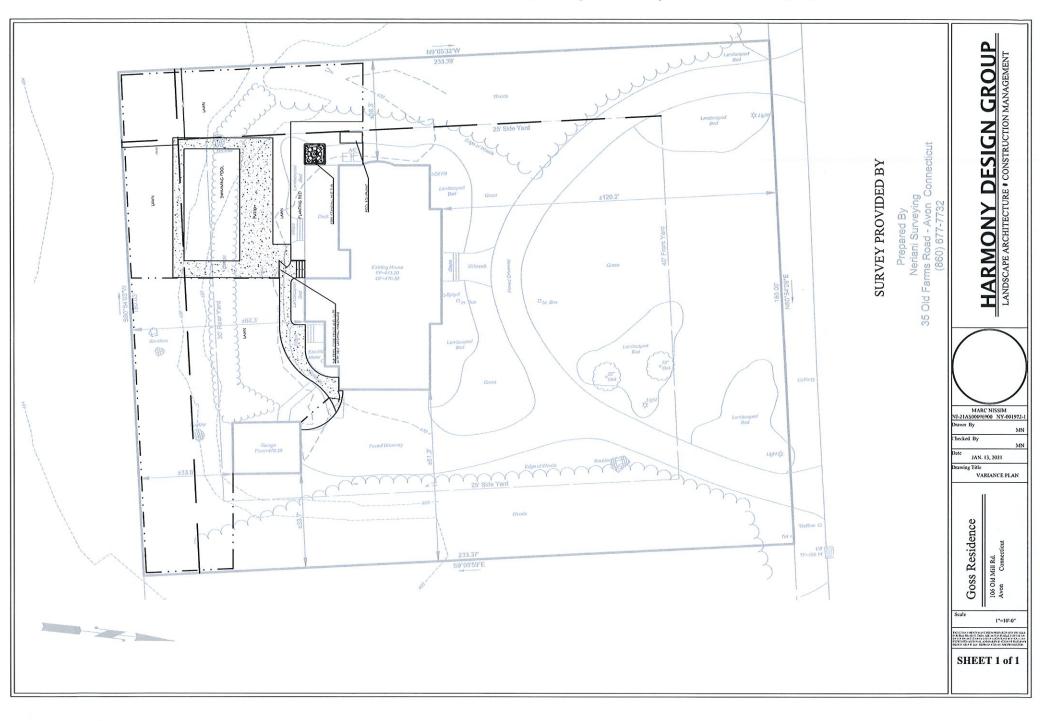
106 OLD MILL JAME





1/28/21 106 OLD MILL JUMS

deplicate but easier to read sums

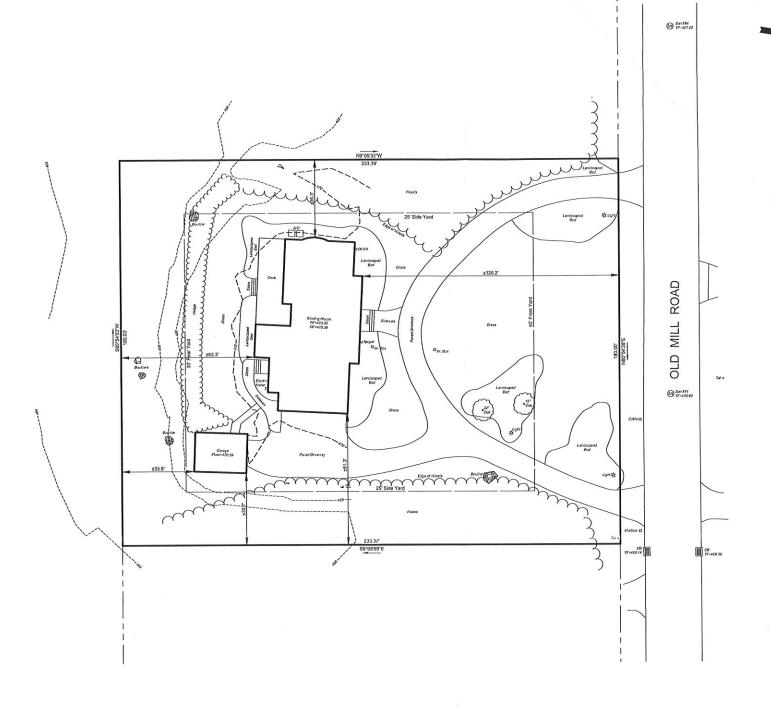




Map References:

- "Section XVI Country Club Estates, Property of Buena Vista Homes, Avon, Connecticut, Scale 1"=40', Dec. 1966, R-40 Zone" by G. L. Davis, A.L.R. 14-30
- *Plan of Subdivision, Avonridge at Old Mil, to be Developed by Avonridge, Inc., Old Mill Road, Henley Way, & Stagecoach Rd., Avon, Connecticut, Scale 1"=40', March 1988" by Hodge Surveying Associates, P.C., A.L.R. 86-58

1. Parcel is located in Zone R40 - Residential



CT LS #10250



Map Showing Land Owned by Bennett & Sarah Goss 106 Old Mill Road

Avon Scale: 1"=20' Connecticut July 21, 2020

Prepared By Neriani Surveying 35 Old Farms Road - Avon Connecticut (860) 677-7732



106 Old Mill

1/29/2021 11:12:00 AM

Scale: 1"=60' Scale is approximate

The information depicted on this map is for planning purposes only. It is not adequate for legal boundary definition, regulatory interpretation, or parcel-level analyses.



