



**ZONING BY-LAW**  
**TOWN OF WILBRAHAM**  
**1990 REVISION**

**Adopted: June 25, 1990**  
**Approved: November 1, 1990**  
**Effective: December 3, 1990**

**Office of Planning & Community Development**  
**Town Office Building**  
**240 Springfield Street**  
**Wilbraham, Massachusetts, 01095**

Revised printing: August 2006



## PREFACE

This is the official Zoning By-Law of the Town of Wilbraham, Massachusetts, prepared by the Office of Planning & Community Development under the direction and supervision of the Wilbraham Planning Board.

The Wilbraham Zoning By-Law was adopted by Town Meeting on February 2, 1931. Subsequent revisions of the Zoning By-Law were approved by Town Meeting in 1946, 1964 and 1990. The 1990 Revision of the By-Law was adopted by Special Town Meeting on June 25, 1990, approved by the Attorney General on November 1, 1990, and enacted effective on December 3, 1990.

Amendments to the Zoning By-Law are listed in the Table of Amendments. The Zoning By-Law is published in a bound loose-leaf format to facilitate the incorporation of future amendments. Supplements to the By-Law will contain an instruction sheet directing the removal of obsolete pages and the insertion of replacement pages. The instruction sheet for the most current Supplement should be placed in the front of the volume, and it is recommended that deleted pages be saved and filed for historical reference.

Specific references are listed alphabetically by subject in a comprehensive index, which serves as a guidepost to quickly direct the user to the particular item of interest within the text. As necessary, particular subjects have been placed under several headings, and numerous cross references added within the index.

The Preface, the Introduction entitled "Laws and Regulations Governing Land Use", the Table of Contents, the Table of Amendments, the Appendices and the Index are included for convenience of reference only and do not constitute an official part of the Zoning By-Law.

Printed copies of the Zoning By-Law and related information about zoning matters may be obtained from the Planning Office as follows:

Planning & Community Development Office	
Town Office Building	
240 Springfield Street	
Wilbraham, Massachusetts, 01095	
PHONE:	(413) 596-2806
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The complete text of the Zoning By-Law is also available in digital format and may be accessed via the internet on the Town of Wilbraham's official website which is located at the following address:

## INFORMATION RELATING TO LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING LAND USE IN THE TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

Land use in the Town of Wilbraham is subject to regulation under various Town Bylaws and Statutes of the Commonwealth. Included among these are the Wilbraham Zoning By-Law, adopted pursuant to Chapter 40A, "The Zoning Act", of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the following:

**General By-Laws of The Town Of Wilbraham** set forth regulation of public conduct relating to the use of land in Wilbraham.

**Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land** set forth the Wilbraham Planning Board's procedures and standards to be followed in the subdivision of land, the construction of ways and the installation of public services.

**State Building Code** sets forth the regulations, administered by the Building Inspector, relative to the construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, demolition, removal, inspection, issuance and revocation of permits and licenses, installation of equipment, classification and definition of buildings and structures and use or occupancy thereof.

**State Environmental Code ("Title V")** sets forth the minimum standards for the protection of public health and the environment where circumstances require the use of individual systems for the disposal of sanitary sewage in areas where municipal sewage systems are not available.

**Wilbraham Board of Health Regulations** set forth local rules and regulations pertaining to the construction, alteration or repair of individual, on-lot sewage disposal systems, swimming pools, the raising of livestock, etc.

**State Wetlands Protection Act** and the **Wilbraham Wetlands By-Law** are administered by the Wilbraham Conservation Commission and provides for public review of proposed projects which involve construction or other alterations of land in or near wetlands or land deemed subject to periodic flooding.

**Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)** sets forth regulations which establish thresholds, procedures and timetables for state review of the environmental impacts of land use decisions which require permits, financial assistance or land transfer from Commonwealth agencies.

**Town of Wilbraham Sanitary Sewer Committee Rules and Regulations** and the **Town of Wilbraham Water Department Rules and Regulations** regulate access to and use of the town's sewer system and public water supply, respectively.

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These Zoning By-Laws were adopted by a unanimous vote of the Special Town Meeting held on June 25, 1990, approved by the Attorney General on November 1, 1990, and in effect as of December 3, 1990. Further amendments are as follows:

**Annual Town Meeting - April 27, 1991**  
(Approved by the Attorney General - 10/9/91)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
24	1.3*	Revised existing definition of "Frontage"
25	1.3*	Revised existing definition of "Lot"
26	1.3*	Revised existing definition of "Building Height"
27	1.3*	Inserted new definition of "Story"
28	4.4.9*	Revised entire section 4.4.9 "Residential Height Limitations"
29	1.3*	Revised existing definition of "Accessory Building or Structure"
30	4.4.8*	Deleted entire section 4.4.8 "Location of Detached Accessory Buildings" and substituted therefor a new section 4.4.8 "Location and Size of Accessory Buildings"
31	4.5.1*	Revised entire section 4.5.1 "Unregistered Motor Vehicles in Residential Districts"
32	3.4.7.3*	Changed the code reference from "Y" to "ZBA" in the R-26, R-34, R-40 and the R-60 District columns under section 3.4.7.3 of the Schedule of Use Regulations table
33	15.6*	Revised entire section 15.6 "Amendment"
34	1.3*	Inserted new definition of "Public Vantage Point"
34	2.2*	Added "Ridgeline and Hillside District" to the list of Overlay Zoning Districts
34	2.3.2*	Revised entire section 2.3.2 to include the Ridgeline and Hillside Overlay District Map by reference as part of the official Building Zone Map
34	9.3*	Inserted a new section 9.3 "Ridgeline and Hillside District"

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### **Annual Town Meeting - June 12, 1993** (Approved by the Attorney General - 8/12/93)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
30	4.7.2(C)*	Revised the first sentence in section 4.7.2, paragraph C, regarding Flexible Non-Subdivision (Estate Lot) Open Space Requirements
31		Amended the Zoning Map by rezoning from R-26 to GB a parcel of land south of Boston Road between Nine Mile Pond and Main Street.
32		Amended the Zoning Map by rezoning from NO to NS a parcel of land located at #1-3 and #2 Crane Park Drive.
33	12.2.2*	Revised entire section 12.2.2 regarding bulletin board signs in residential districts

### **Annual Town Meeting - May 14, 1994** (Approved by the Attorney General - 8/29/94)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
29	1.3*	Revised the existing definition of "Frontage"
29	4.4.1*	Deleted the last sentence to conform with the new definition of frontage in section 1.3
29	5.3.2(B)*	Deleted the entire section to conform with the new definition of frontage in section 1.3
29	7.5.3*	Revised to conform with the new definition of frontage in section 1.3
29	12.4.3*	Revised the first sentence to conform with the new definition of frontage in section 1.3
30	1.3*	Revised the existing definition of "Usable Land Area"
31	1.3*	Revised the existing definition of "Farm"
31	3.4.1.1* 3.4.1.4* 3.4.1.6*	Revised the minimum acreage requirements to conform to agricultural exemption under the state zoning act (MGL Chapter 40A Section 3)

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32	3.4.6.8*	Added "Motor vehicle towing & transportation business" to the Schedule of Use Regulations Table
33	4.4.8(B)*	Revised section 4.4.8(B) to exempt standard two-car detached garages from special permit requirement
34	4.4.11*	Revised entire section dealing with nonconforming lot exemptions
35	1.3*	Added new definitions for "Child Care Facility" and "Family Day Care Home"
35	3.4.4.4*	Revised "Child Care Facility" in the Schedule of Use Regulations Table to conform to exemption under the state zoning act (MGL Chapter 40A Section 3)
36	3.4.8* 3.5*	Renumbered section 3.4.8 as 3.5 (special uses)
36	3.4.7* 3.6*	Substituted a new section 3.6 for deleted section 3.4.7 dealing with accessory uses
36	1.3*	Added new definitions for "Accessory Apartment", "Bed & Breakfast Home", "Home Occupation", "Home Office, Private", and "Home Professional Office"
36	4.10*	Added a new section regarding accessory apartment regulations

**Annual Town Meeting - May 1, 1995**  
(Approved by the Attorney General - 6/27/95)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
34		Amended the Zoning Map by rezoning from R-15 to G.B. the rear portion of a parcel of land located at 1985 Boston Road.
35		Amended the Zoning Map by rezoning from R-26 to N.O. a parcel of land located at 451 Main Street.
36	3.4.6.9*	Added "Bulk Materials Transfer Facility" to the Schedule of Use Regulations Table.

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- 37 12.2.1\* Technical corrections which revise table of use  
12.2.6\* section numbers to conform with changes made  
at the 1994 Town Meeting.
- 37 13.6.6.3\* Eliminated entire section 13.6.6.3 that contained awkward and  
confusing language regarding signs and special permits.

### **Annual Town Meeting - April 29, 1996**

(Approved by the Attorney General - 8/3/96)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
28	1.3* 3.4.2.6* 4.8*	Deleted existing Planned Unit Development (PUD) regulations and substituted therefor new Planned Unit Residential Development (PURD) regulations.

### **Annual Town Meeting - April 28, 1997**

(Approved by the Attorney General - 6/16/97)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
33		Amended the Zoning Map by rezoning from R-26 to G.B. the southerly portion of a parcel of land located at 15 Main Street.
34	3.4.5.17* 3.6.3.3*	Added Seasonal Outdoor Dining as an accessory use to restaurants and food service establishments by special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

### **Annual Town Meeting - May 4, 1998**

(Approved by the Attorney General - 9/11/98)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
35	1.3*	Revised the existing definition of "Street" by deleting subparagraph (d)

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36	4.5.1*	Revised the first sentence in section 4.5.1 "Unregistered Motor Vehicles in Residential Districts" by deleting the words "unregistered and inoperable" and substituting therefor the words "unregistered or inoperable"
37	4.9*	Deleted existing section 4.9 "Access to Lot Other than from Street Frontage" and substituted therefor a revised section 4.9
38	1.3*	Added new definitions for "Co-location", "lattice Tower", "Monopole" and "Wireless Communications Facilities"
38	3.4.3.6*	Added "Wireless Communications Facilities" to the Schedule of Use Regulations Table
38	10.5*	Added a new section 10.5 regarding Wireless Communications Facilities Regulations
39	1.3*	Added new definitions for "Adult Care Facilities", "Adult Day Care", "Assisted Living Residence", "Congregate Living Facility", "Continuing Care Retirement Community", "Custodial Care Facility", "Elderly Housing", "Group Care Facility", "Independent Living Facility" and "Long-term Care Facility"
39	2.1*	Deleted the existing references to "Limited Business District" and inserted a new reference to the "Adult Care Facilities District"
39	3.4*	Deleted all existing references to "Limited Business (LB)" in the Schedule of Use Regulations Table and substituted therefor "Adult Care Facilities (ACF)"
39	3.4.4.8*	Added "Adult Care Facilities (ACF)" to the Schedule of Use Regulations Table
39	6.0* 6.1* 6.3* 12.0* 12.3*	Deleted all existing references to "Limited Business District"
39	8.0*	Added a new section 8.0 entitled "Adult Care Facilities (ACF) District"

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40 Amended the Zoning Map by rezoning from Limited Business (LB) and General Business (GB) to Adult Care Facilities (ACF) a parcel of land consisting of approximately 53.45 acres including all or a portion of land located at 2377R, 2379V, 2387V, 2391, 2399, 2407, 2417, 2423, 2431 and 2439 Boston Road.

**Annual Town Meeting - May 1-2, 2000**  
(Approved by the Attorney General - 9/7/2000)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
16		Amended the Zoning Map by rezoning from GB, R-34 and R-26 to ACF a parcel of land consisting of approximately 72.74 acres located at 2301 Boston Road and 19 Brainard Road (Lot 15)
38	1.3*	Revised the existing definition of "Adult Care Facilities", "Building Envelope", and "Sign"; deleted the existing definition of "Motor Home", "Tent Type Trailer", "Trailer" and "Travel Trailer"; and inserted a new definition of "Clearing Envelope",
38	3.4.1* 3.4.2* 3.4.3* 3.4.4* 3.4.5* 3.4.6* 3.5*	Revised the entire existing "Table One: Schedule of Use Regulations"
38	3.6.2.2*	Revised section 3.6.2.2 to allow the parking or garaging of more than three (3) motor vehicles by special permit from the Planning Board as an accessory use to a residence.
38	3.6.2.16*	Inserted a new section 3.6.2.16 that prohibits helicopter landing areas as an accessory use to a residence.
38	3.6.3.2(B)*	Revised section 3.6.3.2(B) regarding area limitations on the accessory outdoor display of merchandise for retail sales.
38	3.6.3.4*	Inserted a new section 3.6.3.4 "special events" as a temporary accessory business use.
38	4.4.8*	Revised entire section 4.4.8 "Location and Size of Accessory Buildings".

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- 38 4.5.2(B)\* Deleted section 4.5.2(B) regarding fines for motor vehicle zoning violations. Fines will now be covered under section 15.3.
- 38 4.6.2(C)\* Revised section 4.6.2(C) of flexible subdivision regulations by deleting "Building Envelope" and substituting "Clearing Envelope", and by deleting "building site" and substituting "Building Envelope".
- 38 4.6.2(E)\* Revised section 4.6.2(E) of the flexible subdivision regulations by changing the minimum open space requirement from fifteen (15) to twenty-five (25) percent of area of the total parcel.
- 38 4.7.2(D)\* Revised section 4.7.2(D) of the flexible nonsubdivision (estate lot) regulations by deleting "surveyed and dimensioned Building Envelope" with "a Building Envelope within a surveyed and dimensioned Clearing Envelope".
- 38 6.3 Ftn(d)\* Revised section 6.3 by deleting entire footnote (d) to eliminate confusing language regarding setback requirements for buildings on a common side lot line in the NS and GB Zoning Districts.
- 38 6.4\* Deleted entire section 6.4 "Retail Sales of Recreational Vehicles".
- 38 8.10\* Renumbered existing section 8.10 "Enforcement" as section 8.11 and  
8.11\* inserted a new section 8.10 "Project Identification".
- 38 9.1.2\* Adopted various technical amendments to the Flood Plain Overlay  
9.1.3.1\* District regulations.  
9.1.3.2\*
- 38 10.4.2(D)\* Revised section 10.4.2(D) of the Earth Removal Regulations by deleting the reference to the Industrial-Professional Office Park-General Business (I-POP-GB) District.
- 38 10.4.3\* Deleted section 10.4.3 of the Earth Removal Regulations regarding penalties for violations. Fines will now be covered under section 15.3.
- 38 12\* Revised entire section 12 "Sign Regulations".
- 38 15.3.1(A.)\* Revised section 15.3.1(A.) regarding "Penalties for Violations" by deleting "structure or sign" and substituting "structure, sign or use".
- 39 12.10.3\* Added new section 12.10.3 "Identification Signs on Private Property".

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### Annual Town Meeting - May 7, 2001

(Approved by the Attorney General - 8/30/2001)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
15	3.4.1.3*	Revised section 3.4.1.3 of the Schedule of Use Regulations Table to allow commercial greenhouses in the "RMD", "NO", "NS", and "ACF" zoning districts with site plan approval from the Planning Board.
16	3.4.5.17*	Revised section 3.4.5.17 to allow restaurants and food service establishments in the GB and I-POP-GB zoning districts to offer drive through window service by special permit from the Planning Board.
17	1.3*	Added a new definition of "Automated Teller Machine (ATM) Kiosk".
17	3.6.3.5*	Added a new section 3.6.3.5 to allow a small, free standing ATM bank building as an accessory use in an office park or shopping center located in the GB and I-POP-GB zoning districts by special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.
18	10.5.2(F)* 10.5.2(G)* 10.5.2(I)* 10.5.2(M)* 10.5.2(O)* 10.5.3* 10.5.4* 10.5.5* 10.5.6*	Revised section 10.5 "Wireless Communications Facilities (WCF) Regulations".
19	11.2.11*	Deleted section 11.2.11 regarding parking requirements for recreational vehicle dealerships (no longer a permitted use).

### Annual Town Meeting - May 6, 2002

(Approved by the Attorney General - 9/18/2002)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
18		Amended the zoning map in a comprehensive manner by deleting the existing zoning map in its entirety and by substituting therefor a new computer-generated version of the zoning map.

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- |    |                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 18 | 2.3.1*<br>2.3.2*<br>2.4.2*<br>2.4.3*<br>2.4.4*<br>9.1.3.3* | Revised sections 2.31, 2.3.2, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4 and 9.1.3.3 to reference the title and date of the new zoning map.                                                                                          |
| 19 | 3.3.4*<br>7.5.7.1*<br>7.5.7.2*                             | Revised sections 3.3.4, 7.5.7.1 and 7.5.7.2 by correcting outdated cross-references to section 12 that inadvertently were not changed when section 12 was completely revised at the 2000 Annual Town Meeting. |
| 20 | 12.5.1*                                                    | Revised section 12.5.1 to include provision for a free-standing sign up to six (6) square feet in size announcing the location of a nursing home in a residential zoning district.                            |
| 21 | 15.11*                                                     | Deleted entire section 15.11 "Notice to Non-resident Owners".                                                                                                                                                 |
| 22 | 1.3*                                                       | Revised the existing definition of "Usable Land" to include land only where slopes have a grade of 15 percent or less.                                                                                        |
| 23 | 1.3*                                                       | Added a new definition of "Body Art Establishment".                                                                                                                                                           |
| 23 | 3.4.5*                                                     | Added a new section 3.4.5 in the Schedule of Use Regulations Table to allow Body Art Establishments in the GB and I-POP-GB Districts by special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.                      |
| 24 |                                                            | Amended the Zoning Map by rezoning from I-POP-GB to R-60 a parcel of land containing approximately 16.2 acres located at 7, 8 and 9 Red Bridge Road.                                                          |
| 25 |                                                            | Amended the Zoning Map by rezoning from R-26 to NO a parcel of land containing approximately 92,488 square feet located at 360 & 380 Main Street.                                                             |

## TABLE OF AMENDMENTS

### Annual Town Meeting - May 13, 2003 (Approved by the Attorney General - 8/28/2003)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
3	3.6.2.10(G)*	Revised section 3.6.2.10(G) by correcting outdated cross-reference to section 12 that inadvertently was not changed when section 12 was completely revised at the 2000 Annual Town Meeting.
3	3.3*	Revised entire section 3.3 "Non-conforming Uses and Structures".
3	1.3*	Added new definitions for "Automatic Amusement Device", "Automatic Amusement Facility, General" and "Automatic Amusement Facility, Family-Oriented".
3	3.4.5.11* 3.6.3.6*	Revised section 3.4.5.11 and added a new section 3.6.3.6 covering the regulation of automatic amusement devices.
3	3.4.5.14*	Added a new section 3.4.5.14 to the Table of Use Regulations governing exercise facilities or health clubs.
3	11.1.4*	Added a new section 11.1.4 authorizing waivers to the Off Street Parking & Loading Regulations.
3	11.2.11*	Added a new section 11.2.11 specifying minimum off-street parking requirements for self-storage facilities.
4		Amended the Zoning Map by rezoning from R-26 to GB a parcel of land containing approximately 17,192 square feet located at the rear of 2797 Boston Road.

### Annual Town Meeting - May 18, 2004 (Approved by the Attorney General - 7/12/2004)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
21	12.2* 12.9.4*	Added new definition and regulations for "Menu Board" signs.
21	12.6.6*	Revised regulations governing the lighting of signs in the NO and NS zoning districts

## TABLE OF AMENDMENTS

22	4.8.2* 4.8.3* 4.8.3(5)* 4.8.3(6)* 4.8.4* 4.8.5* 4.8.5.2* 4.8.5.4* 4.8.6* 4.8.7* 4.8.7.1* 4.8.7.4* 4.8.7.5* 4.8.7.6* 4.8.7.7* 4.8.7.8* 4.8.8* 4.8.8(B)* 4.8.8(C)* 4.8.8(D)* 4.8.9* 4.8.9(E)* 4.8.10* 4.8.11* 4.8.11(B)* 4.8.12* 4.8.12(A)* 4.8.13* 4.8.13(A)* 4.8.14* 4.8.15*	Comprehensive revision of Section 4.8, Planned Unit Residential Development (PURD) regulations, including a new requirement that such development be designed and occupied as age-restricted housing in accordance with federal and state law.
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**Special Town Meeting – January 11, 2005**  
 (Approved by the Attorney General – 2/22/2005)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
1	12.2*	Added new definition for “Electronic Variable Message Signs”.
1	12.3.2(C)*	Added new language to clarify that Electronic Variable Message Signs are prohibited in all zoning districts except for such signs where allowed that indicate the current time and temperature.

## TABLE OF AMENDMENTS

2	3.4.5.1* 3.4.5.2* 3.4.5.5* 3.4.5.19*	Reorganized and revised section 3.4.5 of the schedule of use regulations table by renumbering section 3.4.5.2 as section 3.4.5.5 and section 3.4.5.5 as section 3.4.5.19, and by revising section 3.4.5.1 and by inserting a new section 3.4.5.2 which segregate the professional and business office use regulations into separate medical and non-medical categories.
2	8.2.1* 8.2.2*	Revised the use regulations governing medical office buildings allowed in the Adult Care Facilities Zoning District subject to site plan approval or special permit from the Planning Board.

**Annual Town Meeting – May 17, 2005**  
(Approved by the Attorney General – 7/6/2005)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
20	1.3*	Revised the existing definition of “Frontage” in Section 1.3.
20	3.4.6.4*	Added a new section 3.4.6.4 in the Schedule of Use Regulations Table to allow a Contractor’s Yard in the I-POP-GB District by special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.
20	4.4.3*	Revised section 4.4.3 by replacing existing incorrect references to “Minimum Usable Lot Area” with correct references to “Minimum Usable Land Area”.
20	4.4.10*	Revised section 4.4.10, Schedule of Dimensional Regulations, by replacing existing references to “Minimum Usable Lot Area” with “Minimum Usable Land Area” and by replacing existing references to “Maximum Lot Coverage” with “Maximum Building Coverage”.
20	11.6*	Deleted section 11.6, Accessory Parking.
20	13.6.9*	Revised section 13.6.9 which regulates the modification, amendment or renewal of special permits.
20	13.6.10*	Added new section 13.6.10 which references enforcement action to remedy violations of special permit conditions.
23		Amended the Zoning Map by rezoning from R-15 to GB a parcel of land containing approximately 2.49 acres including all or a portion of land located at 20, 24, 28 and 88V Stony Hill Road.

## TABLE OF AMENDMENTS

**Annual Town Meeting – May 15, 2006**  
(Approved by the Attorney General – 7/17/2006)

<u>Art.</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>
31		Amended the Zoning Map by rezoning from R-15 to GB a parcel of land containing approximately 16,463 square feet located at 12 Grove Street.

**SECTION 1            AUTHORITY, PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS**

**SECTION 1.1        AUTHORITY**  
**SECTION 1.2        PURPOSE**  
**SECTION 1.3        DEFINITIONS**

**1.1    AUTHORITY**

The Town of Wilbraham hereby enacts this Zoning By-Law pursuant to and under the authority of the Zoning Act, Chapter 40A of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as amended.

**1.2    PURPOSE**

The purposes of this By-Law are:

- 1.2.1**    To promote the health, safety, convenience and general welfare of the present and future inhabitants of the Town of Wilbraham;
- 1.2.2**    To protect the community and the town's natural resources;
- 1.2.3**    To secure safety from fire, flood, pollution, overcrowding and other dangers by regulating the location and use of structures and the open spaces around them;
- 1.2.4**    To lessen congestion in the streets;
- 1.2.5**    To permit and promote planned, orderly growth;
- 1.2.6**    To conserve the value of land and buildings;
- 1.2.7**    To facilitate the adequate provision of public services;
- 1.2.8**    To preserve and increase the town's amenities;
- 1.2.9**    To reconcile the need and desire of Wilbraham's diverse and growing population for adequate housing with the preservation of natural resources and the prevention of overcrowding of land and undue concentration of population;
- 1.2.10**    To encourage compatible development and the most appropriate use of the town's land and resources;
- 1.2.11**    To provide for the expansion of suitable, economically and environmentally sound business and industry within the town in order to diversify the local economy and the tax base;
- 1.2.12**    To establish a fair and reasonable set of standards for evaluating each development proposal impartially, on its own merit;
- 1.2.13**    To develop rational land development alternatives through an equitable and prescribed negotiation process so as to establish a balanced land use pattern that is responsive to the needs of property owners while minimizing the adverse effects of development; and
- 1.2.14**    To provide the town with the full protection authorized by Chapter 40A of the General Laws as amended.

## 1.3 DEFINITIONS

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[Note: Diagrams are for convenience of reference only and do not constitute part of the adopted By-Law.]

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For the purpose of this By-Law, the following words shall have the meanings given hereinafter: where appropriate the singular shall include the plural and the plural the singular; the word "occupied" includes "designed, arranged, or intended to be occupied," and the word "used" includes "designed, arranged, or intended to be used."

**Accessory Apartment.\*** A second dwelling unit that is contained within or added to the structure of a single-family dwelling for use as a separate, independently functioning housekeeping unit, complete with its own means of egress, sleeping, cooking and sanitary facilities. The second dwelling unit is an accessory use to the principal single-family dwelling unit.

**Accessory Building or Structure.\*** A building or structure customarily incidental and subordinate in extent and purpose, and substantially smaller in size, to a principal building on the same lot or on an adjoining lot under the same ownership, and not attached to the principal building by any covered or roofed structure.

**Accessory Use.** The use of a building or premises which is customarily incidental and subordinate to a principal permitted use.

**Adult Care Facilities.\*** Any of the various types of development designed to provide some form of assisted living to elderly adults, the disabled, or chronically ill. This includes Adult Day Care Facilities, Assisted Living Residences, Congregate Living Facilities, Continuing Care Retirement Communities, Custodial Care Facilities, Elderly Housing, Group Care Facilities, Hospices, Independent Living Facilities, Long-term Care Facilities, Nursing Homes and similar developments, as well as medical offices and other ancillary facilities appropriate to the principal use.

**Adult Day Care.\*** A facility offering daytime care for elderly adults or the disabled, providing health care and assessment, personal care, social programs, recreational activities, meals and transportation, but not providing overnight or residential accommodations.

**Alteration.** A change in or addition to a structure.

**Aquifer.** A geologic formation composed of rock or sand and gravel that contains significant amounts of potentially recoverable potable water.

**Assisted Living Residence.\*** A facility as defined by M.G.L. Chapter 19D, providing room and board, personal care services, and assistance with daily living activities. Assisted living facilities are for elderly and handicapped individuals who do not require 24-hour skilled nursing care. Assisted living residences are required to be certified by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

**Automated Teller Machine (ATM) Kiosk.\*** A small, free standing building or structure, by whatever name, providing fully automated walk up and/or drive through banking services accessible to banking customers by means of a coded plastic card or similar device and including limited electronic banking transactions, such as cash deposits, withdrawals and balance inquiries.

**Automatic Amusement Device.\*** Any mechanical or electronic automatic amusement device, whether coin-operated or not, as defined under but not limited to MGL Chapter 140, Section 177A, including video games and mechanical devices for use as game, entertainment or amusement; but not including private, in-home use of such devices, and not including jukeboxes, pool or billiard tables and bowling alleys.

**Automatic Amusement Facility, Family-Oriented.\*** An establishment which offers for public use or private membership use more than six (6) automatic amusement devices on premises not serving or selling alcoholic beverages.

**Automatic Amusement Facility, General.\*** An establishment which offers for public use or private membership use more than six (6) automatic amusement devices on premises serving or selling alcoholic beverages.

**Bed and Breakfast Home.\*** An owner-occupied, single-family residence with guest rooms where overnight lodging and breakfast are provided for compensation on a short-term basis. In a bed and breakfast no meals other than breakfast shall be served to overnight guests. The bed and breakfast is an accessory use to the principal residence.

**Body Art Establishment.\*** A facility, whether public or private, that has been granted a permit from the Board of Health of the Town of Wilbraham, where the practice of physical body adornment is performed, whether or not for profit, including, but not limited to, the techniques of body piercing, tattooing, cosmetic tattooing, branding and scarification in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Wilbraham Board of Health.

**Building.** A combination of any materials forming a permanent, rigid, roofed enclosure intended for the shelter of persons, animals, or property, including any part of a building and porches and accessory buildings attached thereto.

- Building Coverage.** The percentage which the aggregate area of all buildings on the lot bears to the area of the lot.
- Building Envelope.\*** The area within the clearing envelope which demises the intended footprint of the principal structure.
- Building Height.\*** The vertical distance measured from the mean elevation of the finished grade within ten (10) feet of the walls of the building to the highest point of any roof or parapet; except that in the Hillside and Ridgeline District, said vertical distance is measured from the mean elevation at the foundation perimeter of the natural grade existing prior to construction grading or filling.
- Building Setback Line.** A line parallel to the street at a distance equal to the required front yard or at a greater distance when otherwise legally established by the municipality or by private covenant.
- Child Care Facility.\*** Centers which provide day care or school age programs as defined in Section 9 of Chapter 28A of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- Clearing Envelope.\*** The area within a lot which demises the area to be developed including structures, driveway, lawns, septic system and well as applicable. The clearing envelope represents the area where trees and natural vegetation may be cut down and removed. The balance of the lot beyond the clearing envelope is to remain in its undisturbed state. The limit of clearing is not intended to follow building setback requirements and will generally be a smaller area. The limit of clearing will normally not include wetland areas and their buffer zone without the approval of the Conservation Commission.
- Co-location.\*** The use of a single tower mount on the ground by more than one wireless communications facility carrier (vertical co-location) and/or several antenna mounts on an existing building or structure by more than one carrier.
- Congregate Living Facility.\*** A non-institutional, shared living facility providing housing and service needs to functionally impaired or socially isolated elders who are otherwise in good health, can maintain a semi-independent life style, and do not require constant supervision or intensive health care. Each resident shall have an independent bedroom and bathroom, and may have a separate living room, kitchen, or dining area, but may share living and dining facilities with other residents, such as a common dining facility.
- Continuing Care Retirement Facility.\*** A facility that includes combinations of independent living, congregate living, assisted living and nursing home or long-term care within a single development, offering lifetime housing and a variety of health care, social, and recreational services.

**Corner Lot.** A lot with frontage on two (2) streets. A corner lot is considered to have two (2) front yards, two (2) side yards, and no rear yard.

**Custodial Care Facility.\*** A facility that provides nonmedical care addressing the individual's personal needs, such as bathing, dressing, and eating. Such care may be provided by people without professional medical skills or training.

**Dwelling.** A building occupied as a residence by one or two families.

**Dwelling Unit.** One or more rooms providing complete facilities for living, sleeping, cooking, and bathing for the exclusive use of the occupants of the dwelling unit.

**Elderly Housing.\*** Any residential premises available for lease by elderly or disabled persons which is financed or subsidized in whole or in part by state or federal housing programs established primarily to furnish housing rather than housing and personal services, and which was never licensed under M.G.L. Chapter 111.

**Family.** Any number of individuals related by blood, marriage, or adoption, living and cooking together as a single housekeeping unit, provided that a group of not more than four persons living and cooking together, but not necessarily related by blood or marriage each to the other, may be considered a family.

**Family Day Care Home.\*** A private home whose resident family receives children under seven years of age (or under sixteen years of age if such children have special needs) for temporary custody and care during part of the day on a regular basis; provided that the total number of children shall not exceed six (6), including participating children living in the residence. Family day care home is an accessory use to the principal use as a residence.

**Farm.\*** A parcel or parcels of land under one ownership or lease, totaling more than five (5) acres, that is used primarily for the commercial, soil-dependent cultivation of agricultural crop production or the raising of livestock.

**Frontage.\*** The continuous unbroken distance between the sidelines of a Lot measured along the street line at the common boundary between that portion of a "Lot" in the Town of Wilbraham and the right of way of a "Street" as defined hereinafter in this section, or in the case of a Corner Lot, the continuous unbroken distance between the side lot line and the intersecting street line (or the midpoint of the corner radius) measured on each street; and also provided that:

1. there are both legal rights of access and potential safe year-round practical vehicular access between the street line and a potential building site, that is unimpeded by:
  - A. wetlands, unless a wetlands crossing has been approved by the Wilbraham Conservation Commission; or
  - B. topography which prevents a proposed driveway from meeting the curb-cut requirements of the Town of Wilbraham; or
  - C. other natural barriers;
2. access from the street line extended inward to the setback line is provided with a minimum lot width of not less than seventy-five (75%) of the required minimum lot frontage distance measured horizontally along lines which are parallel to or concentric with the street line; and
3. the street has been determined by the Planning Board to provide adequate access to the lot under the provisions of the Subdivision Control Law and the Town of Wilbraham Subdivision Regulations.

For zoning purposes, however, on the turning radius of a cul-de-sac, lot frontage may be considered as the distance between side lot lines measured at the setback line, provided that the distance measured on the street line shall be at least 75 percent of the minimum frontage required for the zone in which the lot is situated.

**Garage, Private.** A building or part thereof used for the storage of motor vehicles and accessory to a principal building on the same lot. No business or occupation carried on for profit is permitted in a private garage.

**Ground Water.** All the water found beneath the surface of the ground. In this By-Law the term refers to the slowly moving subsurface water present in aquifers and recharge areas.

**Group Care Facility.\*** A type of group residence in which a group of individuals not related by blood, marriage, or adoption live together as a single housekeeping unit under a common housekeeping management plan in which some form of health care is provided.

**Hazardous Material.** A substance of material which has been determined by the Secretary of Transportation to be capable of posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property when transported in commerce. Hazardous materials have been designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation under 49 C.F.R. parts 171.8 and 173.

**Hazardous Waste.** A solid, liquid, or combination of solid and liquid wastes, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics may:

1. Cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible illness; or
2. Pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, or disposed of, or otherwise managed.

**Home Occupation.\*** The accessory use of a portion of a home or of a building or structure accessory thereto by a bonafide resident of the premises for the public conduct of a vocation, trade, small business, craft, art or profession which, by nature of its limited size and scope, does not cause any significant outward manifestation (such as traffic generation, parking congestion, noise or air pollution, materials storage, public service, utility demand, etc.) which is uncharacteristic of or an additional disturbance to the particular residential neighborhood in which said property is located.

**Home Office, Private.\*** The accessory use of a portion of a home by a bonafide resident of the premises as an office, studio or work space for the private conduct of a profession or trade. Such occupations shall include minimal office-type activity, conducted by telephone, modem, fax and mail or the production of goods, services or work customarily conducted in residential areas, with no signs, no storage other than samples or assembly of products on the premises, no employees, and no commercial vehicles or customers visiting the premises.

**Home Professional Office.\*** The accessory use of a portion of a home by a bonafide resident of the premises as an office or studio for the public conduct of a professional occupation. Such professions shall include physicians, surgeons, dentists, artists, musicians, accountants, lawyers, engineers, architects, teachers, insurance brokers, builders, real estate brokers, or other like persons.

**Independent Living Facility.\*** A facility that provides residential accommodations for senior adults. These residences may include common areas, a common dining facility, and space for social and educational programs. Home health care or other community-based services may be used on an individual basis. Meals, linen and housekeeping services may be offered.

**Landscaped Buffer Strip.** See requirements in Section 10.2 hereafter.

**Land Usable for Residential Construction.** The number of lots found by the Planning Board at the time of application for a special permit, building permit or subdivision approval, to be suitable for the construction thereon of residential dwelling units under the applicable laws and by-laws and rules and regulations of the Town of Wilbraham and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Said lots shall be shown on a plan submitted by the applicant together with such percolation tests, and any other information deemed appropriate by the Planning Board. Said Planning Board shall make such determination after receiving recommendations from the Board of Health, Town Engineer, Conservation Commission and such other persons as it deems appropriate. Any proposed lot which does not satisfy the lot area, frontage, or yard requirement under Section 4.4 and any lot on a proposed site plan which does not pass a percolation test, in an area not served by Town sewers, shall not be deemed usable for residential construction.

**Lattice Tower.\*** A type of structure upon which antennas and other wireless communications devices are mounted that is self-supporting with multiple legs and cross bracing of structural steel.

**Leachable Wastes.** Waste materials including solid wastes, untreated sewage, agricultural wastes, petroleum products, solid or liquid chemical products and fuels that are capable of releasing waterborne contaminants to the surrounding environment.

**Livestock.** Shall mean domestic animals including horses, ponies, cows, sheep and goats.

**Long-term Care Facility.\*** An institution which is licensed or approved by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to provide 24-hour health care under medical supervision to individuals who, by reason of advanced age, chronic illness, severe disability or infirmity are unable to care for themselves. For the purposes of this bylaw it includes: convalescent home, extended care facility, hospice, intermediate care facility, nursing home, and rest home.

**Lot.\*** A continuous area or parcel of land in undivided common ownership, with legally definable boundaries, and not divided by a street. For zoning purposes, when a lot crosses the town boundary, only that portion of the lot situated in Wilbraham shall be considered in determining conformity to the dimensional requirements specified under this By-Law.

**Lot Frontage.** See the definition of "Frontage" above.

**Lot Line.** The established division line between lots or between a lot and a street.

**Lot Line, Front.** All dividing lines between a street and the lot shall be considered front lot lines.

**Lot Line, Side.** The line or lines bounding a lot which extend from the street toward the rear in a direction approximately perpendicular to the street. In the case of corner lots, or through lots, all lines extending from streets shall be considered side lot lines.

**Mobile Home.** Any vehicle or object whether resting on wheels, jacks or other foundation and having no motive power of its own, but which is drawn by, or used in connection with, a motor vehicle, and which is so designed and constructed as a dwelling unit which permits its transportation and relocation as a complete unit on its own wheels. This shall not include the type of vehicle known as a "travel trailer", "tent-type camp trailer" or "motor home".

**Monopole.\*** The type of structure upon which antennas and other wireless communications devices are mounted that is self-supporting with a single shaft of wood, steel or concrete and a platform (or racks) for panel antennas arrayed at the top.

**Motel-Motor Inn.** A building designed and used for lodging transients in non-housekeeping units with not less than twelve (12) units in any one building. One permanent housekeeping dwelling unit is permitted for occupancy of a manager or custodian. Rooms for assembly, a swimming pool for the use of guests, and the serving of food shall be deemed to be accessory uses.

**Multiple Dwelling.** A building or structure occupied by more than two families.

**Non-Conforming Building.** A building legally existing at the effective date hereof, but which does not conform to all of the applicable requirements of this By-Law regarding area and width of lot, frontage of lot, percentage of building coverage, required yards and parking facilities and building height limit.

**Non-Conforming Use.** A use of land, building, or premises which is not a use permitted by the provisions of this By-Law for the district in which such land, building, or premises are situated, but which was legally existing at the effective date hereof.

**Occupant.** The word "occupant" shall include one or more individuals, a partnership, a business associate, an association and a corporation.

**Open Space.** Land set aside by an owner, to be retained in its natural state or used for agricultural, park or recreational purposes, or similar uses as specified in said special permit creating said open space. Said land shall be owned by the Town, a conservation trust, the owner (by way of a deed restriction) or some other entity and with such other conditions as are specified by the Planning Board. No building permit for a dwelling unit shall ever be issued thereafter for Open Space.

**Penalties.** A fine imposed for violation of the Zoning By-Law.

**Planned Unit Residential Development.\*** A residential development on a tract of twenty (20) acres or more under single ownership with

definite boundaries ascertainable from a recorded deed or plan, which consists of a mixture of residential uses and building types, including one family detached dwellings, two family dwellings, town houses, or multi-family dwellings, and which is planned and developed as an integral unit with a significant area of common open space and/or recreation land. The PURD includes streets, utilities, buildings and other site features and improvements for the common use by some or all of the occupants of the development, but which will not be provided, operated or maintained at general public expense.

**Premises.** The portion of a lot or building actually in use for the specific purpose or use under consideration.

**Private Stable.** A building or part of a building in which one or more horses or ponies are kept for the private use of the owner and in which no horses or ponies are kept for sale, rent, hire, breeding, or for commercial cartage, trucking, or other business purposes.

**Public Vantage Point.\*** A view of land as seen from a public street or publicly identified and recognized public place (i.e., a view especially sensitive to visual change as viewed by the public).

**Recharge Areas.** Areas composed of permeable stratified sand and gravel and certain wetlands that collect precipitation or surface water and carry it to the underlying aquifer.

**Septage.** Liquid and solid material pumped from any individual on-site sewage disposal system.

**Setback.** The distance required from a street line to the nearest wall of a building.

**Sewage.** Any water carried putrescible waste resulting from the discharge of water closets, washing facilities, baths, showers and the like.

**Sign.\*** Any permanent or temporary structure, device, letter, word, model, banner, pennant, insignia, trade flag, or representation use as, or which is in the nature of an advertisement, announcement, or direction, or is designed to attract the eye by means including intermittent or repeated motion of illumination.

**Sludge.** Accumulation of undigestible solids in water suspension removed from sewage during treatment.

**Solar Energy Systems.** Any solar collector and its ancillary system or any structural design of or addition to a new or existing building, the primary purpose of which is to provide for the collection, storage, conversion and distribution of solar energy for space heating, water heating or generation of electricity.

**Solid Wastes.** Discarded solid material with insufficient liquid content to be free-flowing. This includes but is not limited to rubbish, garbage, scrap materials, contained liquid or gaseous materials, inert fill material and landscape refuse.

**Special Permit.** A special permit is the permit granted by the Planning Board, the Board of Appeals or the Board of Selectmen acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority as hereinafter provided.

**Special Permit Granting Authority.** Special Permit Granting Authority shall mean the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board or the Board of Appeals as specified herein.

**Story.\*** That portion of a building contained between any floor and the floor or roof next above it, but not to include the basement or attic.

**Street.\***

**A.** A public way or a way which the clerk of the town certifies is maintained and used as a public way; or

**B.** A way shown on a plan heretofore approved and endorsed in accordance with the subdivision control law, and actually constructed or to be constructed in accordance with said plan; or

**C.** The way in existence when the subdivision control law became effective in the town having, in the opinion of the Planning Board, sufficient width, suitable grades, and adequate construction to provide for the needs of vehicular traffic in relation to the proposed use of the land abutting thereon or served thereby and for the installation of municipal services to serve such land and the building erected or to be erected thereon.

**Street Line.** The dividing line between a street and a lot, and in the case of a public street, the street line established by the public authority.

**Structure.** Any combination of materials located upon a lot and requiring pilings, footings, or a foundation for support. Swimming pools, tennis courts, basketball courts, and other similar recreational facilities, whether or not requiring foundations, shall be structures.

**Subdivision.** Including re-subdivision, shall be as defined in the Subdivision Control Law.

**Swimming Pool.** Any body of water greater than fifteen (15) feet in diameter, or equivalent area, and two (2) feet deep, above ground or below grade, contained in a natural, artificial, or semi-artificial ponded area, receptacle or container, for swimming or wading, whether permanent or temporary, and whether located indoors or outdoors.

**Through Lot.** A lot, other than a corner lot, which extends all the way between and abuts two (2) or more generally parallel streets. A through lot is considered to have two (2) front yards, two (2) side yards, and no rear yard.

**Usable Land Area.\*** That portion of a lot which is not classified as a "wetland" as defined in Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws and the regulations promulgated thereunder in 310 C.M.R. 10.00 and/or the Wilbraham Wetlands Bylaw and the regulations promulgated thereunder, and which does not consist of slopes having a grade of fifteen percent (15%) or greater.

**Variance.** A variance is an authorization by the Board of Appeals granting relief to owners of land or buildings from "substantial hardships" that arise from literal enforcement of the provisions of this Zoning By-Law. No variance may authorize a use or activity not otherwise permitted in the district in which the land or structure is located.

**Wind Energy Conversion System.** Any wind energy collecting device or system, the primary purpose of which is to provide for the collection, conversion, storage and/or distribution of wind energy for generation of electricity, water pumping or operating mechanical devices.

**Wireless Communications Facilities.\*** The structures and devices designed to facilitate cellular telephone services, personal communications services and enhanced specialized mobile radio service as defined in Section 704 of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. Included are towers, antennae mounted to towers or other structures, and accessory structures, such as sheds, which are directly required for facility operations. Not included in this definition are antennae and dishes used solely for residential television and radio reception; and amateur radio facilities used in accordance with the terms of any amateur radio service license issued by the Federal Communications Commission provided the tower is not used for commerce.

**Yard.** An open space, unoccupied except as hereinafter permitted, between a principal building and a street or a lot line. Any such space between a principal building and a street line shall be considered a front yard.

**Zoning.** The word "zoning" is used in this By-Law, adopted by the Town of Wilbraham, to regulate the use of land, buildings and structures to the full extent of the independent constitutional powers of the Town to protect the health, safety and general welfare of their present and future inhabitants.

## **SECTION 2            DIVISION INTO ZONING DISTRICTS**

<b>SECTION 2.1</b>	<b>BASE ZONING DISTRICTS</b>
<b>SECTION 2.2</b>	<b>OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICTS</b>
<b>SECTION 2.3</b>	<b>ZONING MAP</b>
<b>SECTION 2.4</b>	<b>BOUNDARY INTERPRETATION</b>

### **2.1\*    BASE ZONING DISTRICTS**

For the purpose of this By-Law, the total area of the Town of Wilbraham is divided into base zoning districts as follows:

#### **Single Dwelling Residence Districts:**

- R-15    Residence-15 District
- R-26    Residence-26 District
- R-34    Residence-34 District
- R-40    Residence-40 District
- R-60    Residence-60 District

#### **Multiple Dwelling Residence District:**

- RMD    Residential Multiple Dwelling District

#### **Business Districts:**

- NO    Neighborhood Office District
- NS    Neighborhood Shopping District
- GB    General Business District

#### **Industrial, Professional Office Park, and General Business (I-POP-GB) District**

- I-POP-GB

#### **Adult Care Facilities (ACF) District**

- ACF

### **2.2\*    OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICTS**

**For the purpose of this By-Law, the following districts are established as overlay districts and are considered superimposed over the base zoning districts:**

- Flood Plain District
- Ground Water Protection District
- Hillside and Ridgeline District

## **2.3 ZONING MAP**

- 2.3.1\*** The location and boundaries of Base Zoning Districts are hereby established as shown on a map entitled "Zoning Map, Town of Wilbraham, Mass." prepared by the Town of Wilbraham Engineering Department, dated May 2002, as amended by vote of the Town Meeting.
- 2.3.2\*** The Flood Plain Overlay District as defined on maps described in Section 9.1.3, the Ground Water Protection Overlay District as defined in Section 9.2.3, and the Ridgeline and Hillside Overlay District as described in Section 9.3.3 are incorporated herein by reference as part of the official Zoning Map.
- 2.3.3** All said maps and amendments thereto as shall be duly adopted are hereby declared to be an integral part of this By-Law and shall be on file in the Town Clerk's Office. Any change of the Zoning Map shall constitute an amendment to this By-Law and shall conform to the requirements for amending this By-Law.

## **2.4 BOUNDARY INTERPRETATION**

- 2.4.1** Each zone district shall include land lying under any lake, pond, or stream therein. Where opposite sides of a stream lie in different zone districts, the zone boundary shall be deemed to be the center line of the stream.
- 2.4.2\*** Where a zone district boundary is clearly shown on the Zoning Map back from a street or railroad, it shall be deemed as being parallel to and at a distance shown by indicated figured measurements back from such street or railroad.
- 2.4.3\*** Where a zone boundary line as shown on the Zoning Map approximately follows property or lot lines, and the exact location of the boundary line is not indicated by means of figured measurements, then the property or lot line shall be the boundary line, with the exception of the Flood Plain District wherein boundaries shall always follow natural features and landscape contours shown on the maps.
- 2.4.4\*** Where distances are not specified on the Zoning Map nor otherwise determined from the above provisions, the scale of the map shall be used to determine the location of the zone district boundary.
- 2.4.5** In the case of a lot lying in more than one base zone district, the provisions of the less restrictive district may be applied for a distance of not more than twenty-five (25) feet into the more restrictive district provided the lot has frontage on a street in the less restrictive district.

## **SECTION 3 USE REGULATIONS**

<b>SECTION 3.1</b>	<b>BASIC USE REGULATIONS</b>
<b>SECTION 3.2</b>	<b>PROHIBITED USES</b>
<b>SECTION 3.3*</b>	<b>NON-CONFORMING USES AND STRUCTURES</b>
<b>SECTION 3.4*</b>	<b>PRINCIPAL USE REGULATIONS</b>
<b>SECTION 3.5*</b>	<b>SPECIAL USE REGULATIONS</b>
<b>SECTION 3.6*</b>	<b>ACCESSORY USE REGULATIONS</b>

### **3.1 BASIC USE REGULATIONS**

- 3.1.1** No structure, building or dwelling in any district shall be erected, constructed, established, altered, repaired, enlarged or moved, and no land shall be put to new use or shall be occupied except in conformity with the requirements and conditions established by this By-Law, as set forth in Section 3.4, Table One: Schedule of Use Regulations, or as specifically regulated or provided otherwise under other sections hereof.
- 3.1.2** When an activity may be classified under more than one use listed in the Schedule of Use Regulations, the more specific classification shall apply, and if equally specific, the more restrictive classification shall govern.
- 3.1.3** Any use allowed shall be in conformity with all the density and dimensional regulations and any other pertinent requirements of this By-Law.

### **3.2 PROHIBITED USES**

Any use not specifically listed herein or otherwise permitted in a district shall, to the extent permitted by law, be prohibited, provided that:

- 3.2.1** In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40A, and notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary, this By-Law shall not prohibit, regulate or restrict the use of land or structures for religious purposes or educational purposes on land owned or leased by the Commonwealth, or any of its agencies, subdivisions or bodies politic or by a religious sect or denomination or by a nonprofit educational corporation; provided, however, that such land or structures shall be subject to reasonable regulations, concerning the bulk and height of structures and determining yard sizes, lot area, setbacks, open space, parking and building coverage requirements, in accordance with the provisions of this By-Law.
- 3.2.2** This By-Law shall not prohibit, unreasonably regulate or require a special permit for the use of land for the primary purpose of agriculture, horticulture, floriculture or viticulture and shall not prohibit or unreasonably regulate the expansion or reconstruction of existing structures thereon for the primary purpose of agriculture, horticulture, floriculture or viticulture except that all such activities may be limited to parcels of more than five acres which are not zoned for agriculture,

horticulture, floriculture or viticulture, nor shall provisions of this By-Law exempt land or structures from floodplain or wetland regulations established pursuant to general law.

### **3.3\* NON-CONFORMING USES AND STRUCTURES**

Any structure, building or use of a structure, building or land, lawfully existing at the time of the adoption of this Zoning By-Law or any subsequent amendment thereto which does not conform to the regulations thereof may be continued but may not be changed or altered so as to increase or expand the nonconformity except as may be specifically authorized by this section in accordance with Chapter 40A, Section 6 of the General Laws. If such nonconforming situation is abandoned or terminated, as set forth below, it may not be resumed except in compliance with this By-Law.

#### **3.3.1 Change, Extension or Alteration**

**3.3.1.1** The Board of Appeals may authorize by special permit specified changes, alterations or extensions to preexisting nonconforming structures or uses provided that no such change, extension or alteration shall be allowed unless there is also a finding by the Board of Appeals that such change, extension or alteration shall not be substantially more detrimental than the existing nonconforming structure or use to the neighborhood.

**3.3.1.2** A non-conforming one-family or two-family residential structure in a Residential District may be added to or altered without a proceeding before the Board of Appeals provided the Building Inspector determines that the proposed change (1) does not constitute a change of use and (2) does not make the residential structure more non-conforming. A proposed change to such structure will not be considered more nonconforming and will be allowed by building permit from the Building Inspector under the following circumstances:

- A.** Where the existing structure is located on a lot with insufficient frontage and/or lot size, but the existing structure complies with all current setback and building height requirements, and the proposed alteration will also comply with all current setback and building height requirements.
- B.** Where the existing structure encroaches upon one or more required setbacks, and the proposed alteration will not increase the footprint of the existing structure and will comply with building height requirements. This provision shall apply regardless of whether the lot complies with the current minimum frontage or lot area requirement.

- C. Where the existing structure encroaches upon one or more required setbacks, and the proposed alteration will increase the footprint of the existing building and will comply with all current setback and building height requirements. This provision shall apply regardless of whether the lot complies with the current minimum frontage or lot area requirement.
- D. Where the existing structure encroaches upon one or more required setbacks, and the proposed alteration will increase the footprint of the existing building so that it further encroaches upon the required setback area but to a distance no greater than the existing structure and will comply with building height requirements. This provision shall apply regardless of whether the lot complies with the current minimum frontage or lot area requirement.

**3.3.2 Restoration**

A lawfully non-conforming structure, building or use damaged or destroyed by fire, explosion, natural disaster or other accidental cause may be reconstructed or rebuilt to its former size on its former location, and the former use may be resumed, provided that such reconstruction or repair is in conformance with current State Building Code specifications and is substantially completed within one (1) year of the occurrence of said damage. This one year term may be extended for cause by the Board of Appeals.

**3.3.3 Abandonment or Non-Use**

Any non-conforming use which has been abandoned or has not been exercised for a period of twenty-four (24) consecutive months or more, shall not be resumed or reestablished, and all future uses shall conform to the requirements of this Zoning By-Law.

**3.3.4 Reversion**

Any nonconforming use which has been changed to a more restricted (less nonconforming) use, shall not revert to its original less restricted use.

Any non-conforming use which has been changed to a conforming use, shall not revert to a non-conforming use.

**3.3.5 Non-conforming Signs** - refer to section 12.12.

**3.3.6 Non-conforming Residential Lots** - refer to section 4.4.11.

### 3.4\* PRINCIPAL USE REGULATIONS

The principal uses permitted in each district are set forth in Table One, Schedule of Use Regulations, which is supplemented by other sections of this By-Law.

In the Schedule of Use Regulations the following code shall apply:

- "Y"** Use permitted as of right in the district indicated subject to such requirements as may be specified elsewhere in this By-Law.
- "SPA"** Use permitted as of right in the district indicated subject to Site Plan Approval from the Planning Board in accordance with the provisions of Section 13.5 and furthermore subject to such requirements as may be specified elsewhere in this By-Law.
- "ZBA"** Use permitted by Special Permit in the district indicated if granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals subject to the provisions of Section 13.6 and furthermore subject to such requirements as may be specified elsewhere in this By-Law.
- "PB"** Use allowed by Special Permit in the district indicated if granted by the Planning Board subject to the provisions of Section 13.6 and furthermore subject to such requirements as may be specified elsewhere in this By-Law.
- "N"** Use prohibited in the district indicated.







**TABLE ONE: SCHEDULE OF USE REGULATIONS**

BY-LAW NUMBER	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION WITH APPLICABLE STANDARDS & CONDITIONS	ZONING DISTRICT										
		R15	R26	R34	R40	R60	RMD	NO	NS	ACF	GB	IPG
<b>3.4.2*</b>	<b>PRINCIPAL USES: RESIDENTIAL</b>											
<b>3.4.2.1</b>	<b>One family detached dwelling</b> but not a mobile home.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
<b>3.4.2.2</b>	<b>Conversion of an existing one family dwelling to a two family dwelling</b> subject to the restrictions in Section 4.3.	ZBA	ZBA	ZBA	ZBA	ZBA	N	N	N	N	N	N
<b>3.4.2.3</b>	<b>Multi-family dwelling</b> , subject to the restrictions in Section 5. See also 3.4.2.6 (Planned Unit Residential Development).	N	N	N	N	N	PB	N	N	N	N	N
<b>3.4.2.4</b>	<b>Flexible subdivision residential development</b> subject to the restrictions in Section 4.6.	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	N	N	N	N	N	N
<b>3.4.2.5</b>	<b>Flexible non-subdivision (estate lot) development</b> subject to the restrictions in Section 4.7.	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	N	N	N	N	N	N
<b>3.4.2.6</b>	<b>Planned Unit Residential Development (PURD)</b> subject to the restrictions in Section 4.8.	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	N	N	N	N	N	N



**TABLE ONE: SCHEDULE OF USE REGULATIONS**

BY-LAW NUMBER	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION WITH APPLICABLE STANDARDS & CONDITIONS	ZONING DISTRICT											
		R15	R26	R34	R40	R60	RMD	NO	NS	ACF	GB	IPG	
3.4.4*	<b>PRINCIPAL USES: INSTITUTIONAL</b>												
3.4.4.1	<b>Public school, parish school, or nonprofit educational institution.</b> (See also section 3.4.5.8)	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA
3.4.4.2	<b>Church</b> or other place of worship, parish house, parsonage, rectory, convent or other religious use.	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA
3.4.4.3	<b>Public library, philanthropic institution or public museum.</b>	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA
3.4.4.4	<b>Child care facility.</b> (See also 3.6.2.14)	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA
3.4.4.5	[intentionally omitted]												
3.4.4.6	<b>Public park or playground.</b> (See also section 3.4.1.7)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3.4.4.7	<b>Hospital, sanatorium, convalescent home, nursing home, or rest home.</b> Not for the care of drug or liquor patients, nor for correctional purposes, nor for the care of the insane.	ZBA	ZBA	ZBA	ZBA	ZBA	N	N	N	PB	ZBA	ZBA	
3.4.4.8	<b>Adult Care Facilities,</b> subject to the restrictions in section 8.0.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	PB	N	N	

**TABLE ONE: SCHEDULE OF USE REGULATIONS**

BY-LAW NUMBER	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION WITH APPLICABLE STANDARDS & CONDITIONS	ZONING DISTRICT										
		R15	R26	R34	R40	R60	RMD	NO	NS	ACF	GB	IPG
3.4.5*	<b>PRINCIPAL USES: BUSINESS</b>											
3.4.5.1*	<b>Professional and business offices (medical)</b> including medical, dental, surgical, mental health, physical therapy, rehabilitation and other similar health care services that are provided on an out-patient basis as well as related support services, laboratories and other facilities incidental thereto.											
	<b>A.</b> An office building with a <b>gross floor area of 2,000 square feet or less</b> on a lot.	N	N	N	N	N	N	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA	SPA
	<b>B.</b> An office building with a <b>gross floor area of more than 2,000 but less than or equal to 3,000 square feet</b> on a lot.	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA	SPA	SPA	SPA
	<b>C.</b> An office building with a <b>gross floor area of more than 3,000 square feet</b> on a lot.	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA	PB	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.2*	<b>Professional and business offices (non-medical)</b> including, but not limited to, architectural, engineering, legal, finance, banking, insurance and real estate.											
	<b>A.</b> An office building with a <b>gross floor area of 2,000 square feet or less</b> on a lot.	N	N	N	N	N	N	SPA	SPA	N	SPA	SPA
	<b>B.</b> An office building with a <b>gross floor area of more than 2,000 but less than or equal to 3,000 square feet</b> on a lot.	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA	N	SPA	SPA
	<b>C.</b> An office building with a <b>gross floor area of more than 3,000 square feet</b> on a lot.	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA	N	ZBA	ZBA

**TABLE ONE: SCHEDULE OF USE REGULATIONS**

BY-LAW NUMBER	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION WITH APPLICABLE STANDARDS & CONDITIONS	ZONING DISTRICT										
		R15	R26	R34	R40	R60	RMD	NO	NS	ACF	GB	IPG
3.4.5.3	A permanent building, the principal use of which shall be <b>furnishing a business service or services</b> , but expressly excluding automobile fuel sales.	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA	N	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.4	A permanent building, the principal use of which shall be <b>retail sales</b> , but expressly excluding motor vehicle and sales and motor vehicle fuel sales.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	N	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.5*	<b>Barber and beauty shops</b>	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA	N	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.6	<b>Mortuary.</b>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.7	<b>Sales offices.</b> The premises may be used for display of goods only, not for the storage of goods.	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA	N	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.8	<b>Private schools</b> offering instruction in the arts, sciences, and trades. (See also section 3.4.4.1)	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.9	<b>Cleaning and laundry service</b> , and washing machine rental establishment.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.10	<b>Cleaning and laundry service dropoff and pickup establishment</b> , with no on-site cleaning facilities.	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA	N	ZBA	ZBA

**TABLE ONE: SCHEDULE OF USE REGULATIONS**

BY-LAW NUMBER	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION WITH APPLICABLE STANDARDS & CONDITIONS	ZONING DISTRICT											
		R15	R26	R34	R40	R60	RMD	NO	NS	ACF	GB	IPG	
3.4.5.11*	<p><b>Public recreation operated as a business</b>, including facilities for assembly, dancing, billiards, bowling, soccer, tennis, gymnastics, roller skating and similar activities, including mechanical and electrical equipment, vending machines and automatic amusement devices used as accessory to the above listed uses.</p> <p>General Automatic Amusement Facilities &amp; Family-Oriented Automatic Amusement Facilities as defined in section 1.3 are expressly prohibited as a principal or accessory use except as provided by Section 3.6.3.6.</p>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.12	<p><b>Motel or motor inn.</b></p> <p>The lot area may not be less than two thousand (2,000) square feet for each rental unit.</p>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.13*	<b>Body Art Establishment</b>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.14*	<b>Exercise facility or health club</b>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.15	<p><b>Retail lumber and similar building material yards.</b></p> <p>All material must be kept in a building or within a solid enclosure eight (8) feet high. Expressly prohibited is the bulk storage of cement, sand, gravel, and concrete mixing, and tanks above ground for storing petroleum products having a capacity of more than ten thousand (10,000) gallons.</p>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA
3.4.5.16	<b>Motor vehicle repair services.</b>	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA









**TABLE ONE: SCHEDULE OF USE REGULATIONS**

BY-LAW NUMBER	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION WITH APPLICABLE STANDARDS & CONDITIONS	ZONING DISTRICT										
		R15	R26	R34	R40	R60	RMD	NO	NS	ACF	GB	IPG
3.5*	<p><b>SPECIAL USES</b></p> <p>Any use substantially similar to or accessory to a permitted use which does not involve a more intense use than permitted herein in terms of traffic volume, type of use, and visual, air and noise pollution, always taking into account and observing the intentional differentiation of uses permitted between districts.</p> <p>Said use shall be subject to such additional requirements and safeguards as will protect the public health, safety and welfare with particular consideration to the impact of such use on the general character of the surrounding businesses, and the traffic generated on other property in the area.</p>	N	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA	ZBA	PB	ZBA	ZBA



### **3.6\* ACCESSORY USE REGULATIONS**

Accessory uses other than those incident to farming shall be on the same lot as the principal use and shall be such as do not alter the character of the premises on which they are located or impair the neighborhood.

#### **3.6.1 ACCESSORY USES: GENERAL**

##### **3.6.1.1 Uses accessory to farming.**

The processing and sale of products are subject to the restrictions set forth in Section 3.4.1.4 above.

##### **3.6.1.2 Signs.**

In compliance with the special provisions and restrictions set forth in Section 12 Sign Regulations, and requiring a permit from the Building Inspector. All other signs are expressly prohibited.

##### **3.6.1.3 Solar energy system** installed and operated as an attachment or an addition to a principal structure or accessory building.

**A.** The rear yard setback requirement for solar energy devices can be reduced by one-third of the required setback in the District.

**B.** Height limitations shall not apply to solar energy systems if such systems are in no way used for living purposes.

##### **3.6.1.4 Wind energy conversion system** for the on-site use of and/or credit distribution of excess electricity to an electric utility, designed pursuant to applicable Town, State and Federal codes, regulations and statutes.

Height limitations shall not apply to wind energy conversion systems if such systems are in no way used for living purposes.

#### **3.6.2 ACCESSORY USES: RESIDENTIAL**

##### **3.6.2.1 Parking or storage of motor vehicles** subject to the requirements of section 4.5.

##### **3.6.2.2\* Private attached garage, detached garage and/or carport** accessory to a residential dwelling with combined space for not more than three (3) motor vehicles, unless so authorized by special permit from the Planning Board. Parking or storage of motor vehicles shall be subject to section 4.5.

##### **3.6.2.3 Tennis court, basketball court, or similar structure** accessory to a residential dwelling and limited to the

occupants and their guests.

**3.6.2.4 Swimming pool** accessory to a residential dwelling and limited to the occupants and their guests.

- A. Subject to the requirements of the Board of Health [see Appendix D] and further provided that the swimming pool and a fence, if so required, shall conform to setback and yard requirements as set forth in Section 4.4.
- B. Artificial lighting of the pool shall be shaded and directed in such a manner as to limit the lighting to the actual area of the pool, and in no way shall constitute a nuisance. Nothing in this section shall in any way affect present legally existing swimming pools.

**3.6.2.5 Private greenhouses, conservatories, and cold frames; children's playhouses and playground equipment; gazebos, enclosed patios or similar buildings for passive recreational use; tool and garden sheds for the storage or maintenance of yard equipment used on the premises; flagpoles; fences; shelters for household pets (but not a kennel); and other similar buildings and structures** which are used in conjunction with and incidental to a permitted principal residential use.

**3.6.2.6 Temporary mobile home** for residential occupancy for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months on a premises whose dwelling has been rendered uninhabitable by fire or accident with a permit from the Building Inspector.

**3.6.2.7 Private Stables** subject to the following conditions:

- A. The location of the stable is not less than one hundred seventy-five (175) feet from any street line and not less than one hundred (100) feet from any side lot line and not less than fifty (50) feet from any rear lot line.
- B. The minimum acreage required for a private stable shall be three (3) acres of which one and one-half (1.5) acres shall be suitable pasture land to permit a maximum of one horse or pony. One additional horse or pony shall be permitted for each additional two (2) acres of land of which one (1) acre shall be suitable pasture land.
- C. Said animal or animals shall be kept under control by adequate fencing within the area specified. The fenced area shall be to the rear of the rear

line of the dwelling of the owner or lessee except in cases where the frontage of the property is five hundred (500) feet or more on a public or private way.

**3.6.2.8 The taking of boarders** not to exceed four (4) by a resident family in an owner-occupied single-family dwelling by special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**3.6.2.9 Dwellings and housekeeping facilities for employees or non-paying guests of the owner or lessee** by special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals provided that:

- A.** Such facilities shall be included in an accessory building located not less than one hundred fifty (150) feet from any street line and conforming to side and rear yard requirements under Section 4.4.
- B.** Such facilities may not include house trailers.
- C.** All such facilities used for residential occupancy shall be subject to an occupancy permit issued by the Building Inspector.

**3.6.2.10 Bed and breakfast home** by special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals provided that:

- A.** There shall be an owner who resides on the premises responsible for the operation.
- B.** There shall be not more than three (3) rooms available for occupancy by not more than six (6) guests at any one time.
- C.** Breakfast may be provided to overnight guests. However, there shall be no separate cooking facilities.
- D.** There shall be no substantial change to the exterior of the building.
- E.** One parking space shall be provided for each guestroom.
- F.** If such facility is to be served by an existing on-site septic system, the owner shall obtain a letter from the Board of Health or its agent that the sewage disposal system is adequate for the proposed use.
- G.\*** Signage shall be limited to an announcement sign as permitted under Section 12.5.4.
- H.** Any permit shall be personal to the person or

persons to whom it is issued and shall not be transferable.

**3.6.2.11 Private home office or studio.**

The use of a portion of a home by a bonafide resident of the premises as an office or studio for the private conduct of a profession or trade shall be considered accessory to the use of the residence, provided that:

- A.** The occupation is to be conducted in an office or studio in the principal dwelling, and is carried on only by members of the resident family living on the premises. Nonresidents shall not be employed on the premises in connection with such use.
- B.** The occupation is clearly incidental to and secondary to the use of the dwelling as a residence.
- C.** The area devoted to the conduct of the home occupation does not exceed 25 percent of the habitable floor area of the dwelling unit.
- D.** No external change is made which alters the residential appearance of the dwelling or the residential character of the lot.
- E.** There is no exterior display or visible storage or other outward evidence that the premises are being used for any purpose other than residential use.
- F.** No noise, vibration, smoke, dust, odor, heat, glare, unsightliness, electrical interference, or other nuisance is produced which is detectable to normal sensory perception beyond the property line in amounts exceeding those normal to residential property.
- G.** No articles are sold or offered for sale on the premises.
- H.** Deliveries to the premises shall be limited to occasional small packages.
- I.** Patrons, clients or customers are not permitted.

### **3.6.2.12 Home Professional Office.**

The Zoning Board of Appeals may authorize by special permit an office or studio in the home of a physician, surgeon, dentist, artist, musician, accountant, lawyer, engineer, architect, teacher, insurance broker, builder, real estate broker, or other like person, provided that:

- A.** The occupation is clearly incidental to and secondary to the use of the dwelling as a residence.
- B.** Not more than two such persons may carry on such home activity, and both such persons must be members of the same immediate family residing on the premises.
- C.** All other persons employed on the premises, such as secretaries and nurses, shall be subordinate employees, incidental to the carrying on of said home activity and shall not exceed three in number.
- D.** Adequate parking for employees and visitors in connection with such home occupation shall be provided off the street and other than in the required front yard setback.
- E.** Any permit issued shall be personal to the person or persons to whom it is issued and shall not be transferable.

### **3.6.2.13 Home Occupation.**

The Zoning Board of Appeals may authorize by special permit the use of a portion of the home or building accessory thereto as the work space of a resident craftsperson, beautician, dressmaker, photographer, repair person or other like person engaged in a customary home occupation, or as a place for incidental work and storage in connection with the off-premises trade by a resident builder, carpenter, electrician, painter, plumber, landscaper or similar person, provided that:

- A.** The occupation is to be carried on only by members of the resident family living on the premises. Nonresidents shall not be employed on the premises in connection with such use.
- B.** The occupation is clearly incidental to and secondary to the use of the dwelling as a residence.

- C. No external change is made which alters the residential appearance of the dwelling or the residential character of the lot.
- D. All operations, including incidental storage, are carried on within the principal or accessory buildings, and that there is no other outward evidence that the premises are being used for any purpose other than residential use, except for an accessory sign as permitted.
- E. No noise, vibration, smoke, dust, odor, heat, glare, unsightliness, electrical interference, or other nuisance is produced which is detectable to normal sensory perception beyond the property line in amounts exceeding those normal to residential property.
- F. No articles are sold or offered for sale on the premises.
- G. Adequate parking for employees and visitors in connection with such home occupation shall be provided off the street and other than in the required front yard setback. Vehicles and equipment used in connection with the occupation shall be garaged under cover or parked behind the residence and screened from public view.
- H. Any permit issued shall be personal to the person or persons to whom it is issued and shall not be transferable.

**3.6.2.14 Family Day Care Home** by special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**3.6.2.15 Accessory Apartment** by special permit from the Planning Board.

Subject to the restrictions and limitations of section 4.10

**3.6.2.16\* Heliports, helipads and other facilities** that are intended to provide an area, either at ground level or elevated on a structure, for the landing and takeoff of helicopters on a regular or intermittent basis are expressly prohibited in all residential zoning districts. However, nothing herein shall prevent a temporary helicopter landing area for emergency purposes such as air ambulance, search and rescue, fire fighting and similar public safety operations.

### **3.6.3 ACCESSORY USES: BUSINESS**

**3.6.3.1 Off-street parking and truck unloading areas.**

In compliance with the restrictions and provisions set forth in Section 11, Off Street Parking and Loading Regulations.

**3.6.3.2 Outdoor display of merchandise for retail sales as an accessory use to indoor display.**

**A.** Display shall be to the rear of the front yard.

**B.\*** The display shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the building area.

**3.6.3.3\*** The Zoning Board of Appeals may authorize by special permit **outdoor dining as a seasonal use** incidental and accessory to a permitted restaurant.

Outdoor dining areas shall not be located within a parking lot, driveway or public right of way or such other location that will create visibility problems or hazards for motorists and pedestrians or restrict access by emergency vehicles to the building or neighboring property. Where appropriate, walls, fencing or plantings shall be used to separate the outdoor dining area from traveled areas and parking areas. Additional parking at the rate specified by this By-law may be required for the added outdoor seating capacity.

**3.6.3.4\* Special Events**

Tent sales, sidewalk sales, grand openings or other short-term promotions are considered special events and may be allowed by permit from the Building Inspector as a temporary use accessory to a lawfully permitted retail business establishment subject to the following conditions:

**A.** Special events shall not exceed ten (10) continuous days.

**B.** Not more than three (3) special events may occur per lot per calendar year.

**C.** A tent or other temporary structure associated with such special event may be erected no more than one (1) day prior to the event and must be removed within one (1) day of the conclusion of the event.

**D.** Special events related to retail uses or activities shall not generate additional parking demands beyond what can be accommodated by existing on-site parking.

**3.6.3.5\* Automated teller machine (ATM) kiosks**

The Zoning Board of Appeals may authorize by special permit a free-standing automated bank teller machine (ATM) kiosk incidental and accessory to a permitted office park and/or retail shopping center in the GB and I-POP-GB Districts. Said structure shall conform to the applicable setback dimensions except that, at the discretion of the Zoning Board of Appeals, said structure with a footprint less than two hundred (200) square feet in area may be located in the front yard if set back at least twenty (20) feet from the street line and ten (10) feet from the side lot line.

**3.6.3.6\* Family-Oriented Automatic Amusement Facilities**

The Planning Board may authorize by special permit a Family-Oriented Automatic Amusement Facility as defined in section 1.3 as an accessory use to a public recreation business lawfully permitted under section 3.4.5.11. The special permit may stipulate the maximum number of automatic amusement devices permitted subject to the issuance of appropriate licenses in compliance with all applicable state and local law including section 627 of the General Bylaws of the Town of Wilbraham.

**3.6.4 ACCESSORY USES: INDUSTRIAL**

## **SECTION 4 SINGLE DWELLING RESIDENCE DISTRICTS**

<b>SECTION 4.1</b>	<b>GENERAL REQUIREMENTS</b>
<b>SECTION 4.2</b>	<b>PERMITTED USES</b>
<b>SECTION 4.3</b>	<b>TWO FAMILY DWELLING CONVERSION</b>
<b>SECTION 4.4</b>	<b>DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS</b>
<b>SECTION 4.5</b>	<b>MOTOR VEHICLES</b>
<b>SECTION 4.6</b>	<b>FLEXIBLE SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS</b>
<b>SECTION 4.7</b>	<b>FLEXIBLE NON-SUBDIVISION (ESTATE LOT) REGULATIONS</b>
<b>SECTION 4.8*</b>	<b>PLANNED UNIT RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT (PURD)</b>
<b>SECTION 4.9</b>	<b>ACCESS TO LOT OTHER THAN FROM STREET FRONTAGE</b>
<b>SECTION 4.10*</b>	<b>ACCESSORY APARTMENT REGULATIONS</b>

### **4.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

In the R-15, R-26, R-34, R-40 and R-60, Districts no building or structure or part thereof shall be erected, altered or used, nor may any land be used except in conformance with the following regulations.

### **4.2 PERMITTED USES**

Refer to Section 3 Use Regulations.

### **4.3 TWO FAMILY DWELLING CONVERSION**

As provided for in Section 3.4.2.2, the Zoning Board of Appeals acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority may issue a special permit for the conversion of an existing one family dwelling for not more than two families under the following conditions:

- 4.3.1** Subject to all of the applicable general findings of Section 13.6.5.
- 4.3.2** The one family house shall have been erected prior to January 1, 1946.
- 4.3.3** The existing house is suitable and capable of being altered for the proper and convenient use of two families without materially altering the exterior appearance.
- 4.3.4** The Board shall require adequate plans setting forth the changes and improvements to be made.
- 4.3.5** The Board shall place such reasonable restrictions and conditions upon the special permit as they deem necessary under the purpose of the Zoning By-Law.

### **4.4 DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS**

Except as provided for in sections 4.6, 4.7 and 4.8 hereafter, no dwelling or structure shall be built in any single dwelling residence district except in conformance with the following requirements, and no lot or the building thereon shall be changed in size so as to violate the provisions hereof.

#### **4.4.1\* Minimum Lot Frontage**

Land sold or subdivided shall provide for each dwelling or principal building not less than the minimum lot frontage required in the applicable residence district as listed in the schedule in section 4.4.10.

#### **4.4.2 Minimum Lot Area**

Land sold or subdivided shall provide for each dwelling or principal building not less than the minimum lot area required in the applicable residence district as listed in the schedule in section 4.4.10.

#### **4.4.3\* Minimum Usable Land Area**

A specified percentage of the area required for zoning compliance, whether by special permit or otherwise, for any lot in a residence district shall consist of contiguous usable land area as defined in Section 1.3. Said percentage shall equal seventy-five (75) percent of said minimum requirement if it equals or exceeds 34,000 square feet and ninety (90) percent of said minimum requirement if it is less than 34,000 square feet.

#### **4.4.4 Maximum Building Coverage**

- A.** The total aggregate lot area covered by all principal and accessory buildings and structures shall not exceed the percentage specified in the applicable residence district, as listed in the schedule in section 4.4.10.
- B.** No part of any dwelling or principal building, excluding uncovered steps, may protrude into yards except that eaves, chimneys and other architectural features may project not more than 24 inches into yards.

#### **4.4.5 Minimum Front Yard (Setback)**

- A.** In single family residence districts no part of any building or other structure, including a porch, shall be erected or altered so as to be nearer to the street line than the nearest building located within two hundred and fifty (250) feet on either side of the lot facing the same street and located within the same block and district, but in no case can the setback required in this section be less than twenty five (25) feet nor need it exceed sixty (60) feet.
- B.** Setbacks for new buildings not otherwise controlled by Section 4.4.5.A. shall conform in minimum depth to the schedule in section 4.4.10.
- C.** In the case of a corner lot or a through lot, the above setback requirements shall apply on both streets.

#### 4.4.6 Minimum Side Yard

Each principal building shall have a side yard between the building and each side lot line not less than is required in the applicable residence district, as listed in the schedule in section 4.4.10.

#### 4.4.7 Minimum Rear Yard

Each principal building on an interior lot (that is a lot other than a corner lot or a through lot) shall have a rear yard not less than is required in the applicable residence district, as listed in the schedule in section 4.4.10.

#### 4.4.8\* Location and Size Of Accessory Buildings

- A. In residential districts, any permitted accessory building or structure (except fences and retaining walls) shall conform to the applicable setback for the principal building or use, excepting that any accessory building less than one hundred forty-four (144) square feet in area and not exceeding twelve (12) feet in height may be erected in a side yard if set back at least seventy five (75) feet from the street line and ten (10) feet from the side lot line; or in the rear yard if set back at least five (5) feet from the rear lot line. Private stables are further limited in Section 3.6.2.7.
- B. No accessory building in excess of sixteen (16) feet in height, or in excess of three hundred (300) square feet in area on lots of 40,000 square feet or less, or in excess of four hundred and eighty (480) square feet on lots greater than 40,000 square feet, shall be erected except by special permit from the Planning Board in accordance with the provisions of section 13.6. This provision shall not apply to legitimate accessory farm buildings nor to an otherwise lawfully conforming detached garage accessory to a single family dwelling provided such garage does not exceed 625 square feet in area and 16 feet in height.
- C. The placement of more than one accessory building on a lot shall be governed by the total square footage of such buildings taken in the aggregate in accordance with the provisions of this section as summarized in the following table.

Total Building Area (square feet)	Lot Size (≤ 40,000 square feet)	Lot Size (> 40,000 square feet)
≤144	Y	Y
145 -300	Y	Y
301 -480	SP	Y
481-625	SP [exception for garage see § 4.4.8 (B)]	SP [exception for garage see § 4.4.8 (B)]
>625	SP	SP

Note: Y = Use allowed by building permit from Building Inspector  
SP = Use allowed by Special Permit from Planning Board

#### 4.4.9\* Residential Height Limitations

- A. In all residence districts except as otherwise provided in the Zoning Act, the limit of height shall not exceed two (2) stories, basement and attic, provided further that such attic space shall not be designed or used for human occupancy.
- B. Building height shall not exceed thirty-five (35) feet, but this limitation of height shall not apply to farm buildings, nor chimneys.

#### 4.4.10\* Schedule of Dimensional Requirements

	ZONING DISTRICT				
	R-15	R-26	R-34	R-40	R-60
<b>Minimum Lot Frontage</b> (feet)	100	130	170	200	200
<b>Minimum Lot Area</b> (square feet)	15,000	26,000	34,000	40,000	60,000
<b>Minimum Usable Land Area</b> (square feet)	13,500	23,400	25,500	30,000	45,000
<b>Minimum Front Yard</b> (*1) (feet)	35	40	40	40	40
<b>Minimum Side Yard</b> (feet)	10	15	20	20	20
<b>Minimum Rear Yard</b> (feet)	30	40	40	50	50
<b>Maximum Building Coverage</b> (percent)	25	25	25	25	25
<b>Maximum Building Height</b> (stories)	2	2	2	2	2
<b>Maximum Building Height</b> (feet)	35	35	35	35	35

Note: (\*1) See 4.4.5(A) as to exception hereto, except as otherwise provided in the Zoning Act.

#### 4.4.11\* Nonconforming Lot Exemptions

Increased requirements respecting lot area, frontage, yard, and similar dimensions provided in this Zoning By-Law or amendments thereto shall be subject to the exemptions provided in section 6, chapter 40A, of the Massachusetts General Laws, and shall not apply to a vacant lot for single family use which, at the time of recording or endorsement, whichever occurred sooner, was not held in common ownership with any adjoining land, conformed to the then existing requirements, and had less than the increased requirement but at least five thousand square feet of area and fifty feet of frontage.

## **4.5 MOTOR VEHICLES**

### **4.5.1\* Unregistered Motor Vehicles in Residential Districts**

Motor vehicles as defined in the General Laws which are unregistered or inoperable shall not be stored or parked in residential areas so as to be visible from any street or way for a period in excess of thirty (30) days. However, the open air storage of more than two (2) unregistered vehicles on any residential lot is prohibited. This section shall not apply to unregistered vehicles used primarily for agricultural purposes.

### **4.5.2 Parking or Storage Restrictions For Trucks And Buses In Residential Districts**

**A.** Parking or storage of trucks, tractors, trailers for use with tractors, and buses except for deliveries or other similar short period parking, and except for parking or storage of farming trucks is prohibited in all residential districts except as follows:

- (1)** Vehicles not in excess of 3/4 ton manufacturer's rating.
- (2)** Vehicle housed within the confines of a garage or accessory building.

## **4.6 FLEXIBLE SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS**

For the purpose of promoting the more efficient use of land in harmony with its natural features, an owner of a tract of land situated within a Residence District, or other suitable applicant, may make application to the Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, for a special permit exempting any or all of the lots to be created upon the subdivision of such land from the square foot, usable lot area, frontage, yard, and setback requirements of Section 4.4.

**4.6.1** Such application shall be accompanied by a Site Plan and such other information as is required by Planning Board Subdivision Rules and Regulations.

**4.6.2** After submission of fees by the applicant, publication of notice and a public hearing, the Planning Board may, after due consideration of the reports and recommendations of the Conservation Commission and the Board of Health, grant such special permit provided that:

- A.** The number of lots on which there is to be a single dwelling unit does not exceed the number of lots upon which dwellings could be constructed on the total land area of the tract which is Land Usable for Residential Construction;
- B.** Each of the lots shown on the plan has reasonable frontage on a Street deemed adequate by the Planning Board;
- C.\*** Each lot is of a size and shape to provide a Building Envelope within a surveyed and dimensioned Clearing Envelope which shall be in harmony with the natural terrain and other features of the tract, as shown on an approved Site Plan;

- D. The front, side and rear yards of each lot shall be shown on said approved site plan by dashed lines;
- E.\* At least twenty-five (25) percent of the area of the tract subject to said special permit (exclusive of land set aside for road area) shall be Open Space;
- F. No lot shown on said Site Plan shall have less than 48,000 square feet in a R-60 District, 34,000 square feet in a R-40 District, or 30,000 square feet in a R-34 District, in all other residential districts the lot size shall not be reduced.

**4.6.3** The Planning Board may impose further restrictions upon the tract as a condition to granting the special permit as the Planning Board shall deem appropriate to accomplish the purposes of this By-Law.

**4.6.4** In connection with issuing or denying a special permit under this section, the Planning Board shall issue to the applicant and shall file with the Town Clerk a written decision which shall include as a minimum:

- A. A determination of the area of the tract which is "Land Usable for Residential Construction";
- B. A determination of the number of lots upon which dwellings could be constructed without regard to this section;
- C. A general description of the neighborhood in which the tract lies and the effect of the plan on the area;
- D. The relation of the plan to long range plans of the Town, if any;
- E. Whether or not the plan is designed to take advantage of the natural terrain of the tract;
- F. Whether or not the proposed Open Space is of a size and shape to provide adequate access to benefit the Town, or the creation of which is otherwise advantageous to the Town;
- G. If the Planning Board grants the special permit, the findings required by Section 4.6.2 and Section 13.6.5;
- H. If the Planning Board denies the special permits, its reasons for so doing;
- I. If the Planning Board disagrees with the recommendations of the Conservation Commission or the Board of Health, it shall state its reasons therefor in writing.

**4.6.5** No building lot shown on said Site Plan may be subdivided at any subsequent time into two or more building lots unless said right has been expressly reserved by Special Permit, and no variance may be issued by the Board of Appeals which creates an additional building lot.

**4.6.6** If said Special Permit is issued, the applicant shall submit for approval a definitive plan of said tract of land which is substantially

the same as said Site Plan, which shall be expeditiously processed by the Planning Board.

#### **4.7 FLEXIBLE NON-SUBDIVISION (ESTATE LOT) REGULATIONS**

The Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority may grant approval to a non-subdivision plan which includes the creation of lots having less frontage on a street as defined in Section 1.3 under sub-definitions (a) (b) and (c) than is otherwise provided for in this By-Law, for the purpose of preserving open space and of reducing visual and traffic density, provided that the following conditions are met.

- 4.7.1** Such application shall be accompanied by a Site Plan and such other information as is required by Planning Board Subdivision Rules and Regulations.
- 4.7.2** After submission of fees by the applicant, publication of notice and a public hearing, the Planning Board may, after due consideration of the reports and recommendations of the Conservation Commission and the Board of Health grant such Special Permit provided that:
  - A.** The total parcel consists of at least 320,000 square feet before division into separate lots, of which no more than forty (40) percent is wetland.
  - B.** Any lot which does not satisfy the frontage requirements has a total area which is at least equal to three hundred (300) percent of the lot size requirement for said parcel as set forth in Section 4.4. If the lot is located in two residential zoning districts, the district in which the house is to be located shall determine the size of the lot.
  - C.\*** As a result of the approval of said plan, Open Space equal to at least 200,000 square feet for each lot having less than the required frontage is being created thereby on that lot or on other adjacent land. The purpose of this requirement is to avoid increasing density on tracts of land which could otherwise be developed as a formal subdivision by providing for a more limited form of development which results in substantially less overall density than would occur if said parcel was to be developed as a subdivision under this By-Law.
  - D.\*** Such Site Plan shall provide for a Building Envelope within a surveyed and dimensioned Clearing Envelope with respect to any such lot created so as to ensure that the siting of such houses is suitable to the neighborhood.
  - E.** If the frontage on a street, other than a private driveway, satisfies the standard frontage requirements of this By-Law for the number of lots so created by said Site Plan, and all of said lots are capable of being built on as defined under Section 1.3 (Land Usable for Residential Construction), and the applicant wishes to create lots which vary from said standard frontage requirements, the Planning Board by Special Permit may modify

the requirements of Sections 4.7.2(A) and 4.7.2(B) provided that the total number of lots created does not exceed the number of lots that could otherwise be built upon under this section.

**4.7.3** The Planning Board may impose further restrictions upon the tract as a condition to granting the Special Permit as the Planning Board shall deem appropriate to accomplish the purposes of this By-Law.

**4.7.4** In connection with the issuing or denying of a special permit under this section, the Planning Board shall issue to the applicant and file with the Town Clerk a written decision which shall include as a minimum:

- A.** For each lot established by the approval of said plan, a determination that the total area of the lot, the area of the lot which is "Usable For Residential Construction", and the area of Open Space set forth on the lot or adjacent land are in conformance with the requirements of this section;
- B.** A determination of the number of lots upon which dwellings could be constructed without regard to this Section if a conventional subdivision plan were being submitted;
- C.** A general description of the neighborhood in which the tract lies and the effect of the plan on the area;
- D.** The relationship of the plan to long range plans of the Town, if any;
- E.** Whether or not the plan is designed to take advantage of the natural terrain of the tract;
- F.** Whether or not the proposed open space is of a size and shape to either provide adequate access to benefit the Town or the creation of which is otherwise advantageous to the Town;
- G.** A determination that a conventional subdivision of said parcel would be both economically feasible and capable of construction taking into account all state statutes, rules and regulations and all Town by-laws, rules and regulations, and that the issuance of such Special Permit is likely to result in no more building lots than would otherwise be approved and built upon as a conventional subdivision;
- H.** If the Planning Board grants the Special Permit, the findings required by Section 4.7.2 and Section 13.6.5;
- I.** If the Planning Board denies the Special Permit, its reasons for so doing; and
- J.** If the Planning Board disagrees with the recommendations of the Conservation Commission or the Board of Health, it shall state its reasons therefor in writing.

**4.7.5** No building lot shown on said Site Plan may be subdivided at any subsequent time into two or more building lots unless said right has

been expressly reserved by said Special Permit and no variance may be issued by the Board of Appeals which creates an additional building lot.

#### **4.8\* PLANNED UNIT RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT (PURD)**

The Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, may authorize a Planned Unit Residential Development (PURD) as defined by section 1.3 by special permit in conformance with the procedures specified in section 4.8 and section 13.6. Such PURD shall be subject to rules, regulations and criteria as officially promulgated by the Planning Board.

##### **4.8.1 Purpose**

It is the purpose of this section to allow for greater variety and flexibility in the development of housing types and to facilitate the construction and maintenance of streets, utilities and public services in a more economical and efficient manner while at the same time conserving important natural site features and permanently preserving open space.

##### **4.8.2\* Age-Restricted Occupancy**

Unless expressly waived by the Planning Board, the PURD shall provide age-restricted housing comprised of dwelling units limited to use and occupancy primarily by persons at least 55 years of age or older, who are able to maintain an active, independent lifestyle without the help of additional onsite support services, in accordance with federal and state fair housing laws (42 U.S.C. Section 3607(b) and M.G.L. Chapter 151B, respectively), as amended.

**4.8.2.1** Not more than three (3) residents shall occupy any dwelling unit.

**4.8.2.2** All occupants of a dwelling unit shall be age fifty-five (55) or older except as follows:

**A.** A spouse or cohabitating partner of an occupant age fifty-five (55) or older.

**B.** An occupant pursuant to 4.8.2.2 (A.) who survives his or her spouse or partner.

**C.** Not more than one child residing with his or her parent(s), provided said child is eighteen (18) years of age or older.

**4.8.2.3** The owner of the development shall publish and follow policies and procedures that demonstrate the intent to be housing for persons fifty-five (55) and older including federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) rules for verification of occupancy.

#### **4.8.3\* Application**

- A.** The applicant for a PURD special permit shall submit to the Planning Board a written application on the prescribed form containing all the information required hereafter including the following materials:
- (1)** A Development Statement listing the development team, setting forth the development concept, including in tabular form the number of units, type, size (number of bedrooms, amount of living space, gross floor area), ground coverage and summary showing the area of residential development and common open space as percentage of the total area.
  - (2)** A Development Site Plan of the entire tract in accordance with the requirements of this section and section 13.3 and meeting, to the extent applicable, the requirements set forth for a definitive plan in the Wilbraham Subdivision Regulations.
  - (3)** Architectural rendering of the site plans and typical structures including floor plans and elevations.
  - (4)** A traffic study of the area as it may be affected by the proposed development, including present and anticipated traffic counts, flow patterns, and capacity analysis of present and proposed intersections and entrances serving the development.
  - (5)\*** An engineering report regarding the adequacy of sewage disposal, water supply and storm water drainage including the impact of the proposed design on the existing municipal utility infrastructure of the Town.
  - (6)\*** Marketing and management information including proposed unit selling prices, construction schedule, phasing schedule, and drafts of policies and procedures that demonstrate the intent to be housing for persons fifty-five (55) and older including federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) rules for verification of occupancy.
- B.** Said application shall contain sufficient information so that the Planning Board can determine the applicability of said application for the following items:
- (1)** Is consistent with the Master Plan of Development of the Town;
  - (2)** Preserves and protects the character of the Town and especially the immediate neighborhood, giving due consideration to such features as public safety, including traffic control and traffic impact upon surrounding roads; development of adequate recreational facilities for the

use of the residents of said proposal; adequate fire protection; public health including sewerage disposal, drainage and water supply; and the compatibility of the size, location, architecture, and landscaping of said project with the adjacent neighborhood and the Town;

- (3) Minimizes potential adverse environmental impacts upon the Town;
- (4) Is likely to result in a financially stable, soundly and attractively constructed and well managed and maintained project; and
- (5) Conforms to the specific provisions of this By-Law, including the design guidelines of this section and section 13.4.

C. Said permit shall not be issued unless the Planning Board affirmatively determines that each of the above listed criteria is met by said applicant.

#### **4.8.4\* Use Regulations**

The following uses shall be permitted in a PURD:

- A. One family detached dwellings;
- B. Two family detached dwellings;
- C.\* Townhouses or multiple dwellings not exceeding six (6) units per building;
- D. Recreational uses and community facilities such as parks, gardens, swimming pools, tennis courts, clubhouses and community buildings;
- E. Accessory uses customarily incidental and subordinate to the principal uses listed above, but expressly excluding any commercial or retail enterprises.

#### **4.8.5\* Dimensional Regulations**

Property for PURD use shall comply with the following dimensional requirements:

**4.8.5.1 Minimum Parcel Size.** The total parcel shall have a minimum area of not less than twenty (20) acres. A minimum of ten (10) acres of the total area required for zoning compliance shall consist of usable land as defined in Section 1.3.

**4.8.5.2\* Minimum Parcel Frontage.** The total parcel shall have a minimum frontage on a public way of at least one hundred (100) feet. There shall be no frontage requirements within the PURD.

**4.8.5.3 Front, Side and Rear Yards.** The minimum front yard (setback), side yard and rear yard requirements shall be

eighty (80) feet and shall pertain only to the periphery of the PURD.

**4.8.5.4\* Buffer Area.** A landscaped buffer strip not less than thirty (30) feet wide, as described in Section 10.2, shall be provided along the perimeter of the property. The buffer area shall be counted as part of the front, side and rear yards. Additional buffering may be required in sensitive areas at the discretion of the Planning Board. The Planning Board may modify or waive the buffering requirement where variations in topography, natural features, or compatible land uses obviate the need for such a buffer.

#### **4.8.6\* Density Regulations**

The maximum number of dwelling units permitted within any PURD shall be determined by the Planning Board to assure compliance with the purpose and intent of these PURD regulations, and in any event shall not exceed an average of eight (8) dwelling units per acre of usable land area if connected to the municipal sewerage system or an approved privately owned small sewage treatment facility or four (4) dwelling units per acre of usable land area if on an individual or group subsurface sewerage disposal system.

#### **4.8.7\* Building Requirements**

**4.8.7.1\* Building Character.** The PURD shall be a an architecturally integrated development. An architectural theme shall be carried out by the use of common building materials, color, exterior detailing, bulk and/or roof lines. Rigidity in design shall be avoided by variations in building type and location, landscaping and building coverage. Design characteristics shall be stated in the development application and shall include, but not be limited to, building materials, architectural design, and street furniture, which shall require Planning Board approval.

**4.8.7.2 Building Location.** Building location and orientation shall reflect:

- A.** Relationship to the street line and to other buildings in the development if in close proximity, in order to protect privacy and create visual coherence;
- B.** Views, solar access, and access to common open space, in order to enhance occupant's interests;
- C.** Organization of large developments into recognizable sub-areas in order to provide scale and identity;

- D. Avoidance of major topographic change and destruction of significant natural site features including removal of native trees and vegetation in order to preserve and protect the environment;
- E. Reduction of visual intrusion into abutting properties in order to protect existing character. To the extent practicable, the multifamily units of the PURD shall be developed more towards the interior rather than the periphery of the tract so that the one family and two family detached residences, if any, border adjacent properties, acting as a buffer between the development and pre-existing one family neighborhoods.

**4.8.7.3 Maximum Building Height.** The maximum height of structures shall be two (2) stories and thirty-five (35) feet above the ground.

**4.8.7.4\* Maximum Number of Bedrooms.** The maximum number of bedrooms or rooms used primarily for sleeping purposes per dwelling unit shall be two (2).

**4.8.7.5\* Minimum Floor Area.** The minimum floor area for any single dwelling unit shall be nine-hundred (900) square feet.

**4.8.7.6\* Minimum Setback Distance Between Buildings.** Proposed buildings shall relate harmoniously to each other with adequate light, air, circulation and separation between buildings. The minimum setback distance between any two buildings shall be forty (40) feet.

**4.8.7.7\* Community Facility.** Unless waived by the Planning Board, the development shall establish a community room or facility for use by the residents. Such facility shall provide community space for mail, indoor recreation, meetings, and other functions held by the residents.

**4.8.7.8\* Accessibility Design.** Dwelling units and common areas shall be designed to comply with federal and state requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**4.8.8\* Utilities**

**A.** Each dwelling in a PURD shall be provided with access, drainage and utilities that are functionally equivalent to that provided under the Planning Board's Subdivision Regulations. All utilities shall be placed underground.

**B.\*** All dwelling units shall be serviced by a public water supply deemed adequate for fire protection and domestic use.

- C.\* All dwelling units shall be connected to public sewers if available. If public sewers are not available, all dwelling units shall be serviced with onsite sewage disposal systems which shall be designed to meet the requirements of approval from the Wilbraham Board of Health and/or the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection as necessary.
- D.\* All outdoor lighting in the development shall be designed to improve visibility, safety and a sense of security, while minimizing energy use, operating costs, glare and light pollution. Outdoor lighting shall be designed to prevent misdirected or excessive artificial light. Building areas shall not be floodlit. Roadways, parking areas, walkways, and other public areas shall be illuminated only by properly positioned, high-efficiency, "full-cutoff shielded" lighting fixtures not higher than fifteen (15) feet in height.

#### **4.8.9\* Parking and Circulation Requirements**

- A. There shall be an adequate, safe, and convenient arrangement of pedestrian circulation, roadways, driveways and parking.
- B. Vehicular access to the PURD shall be provided from an existing public way which in the opinion of the Planning Board is adequate to service the proposed development. As a matter of public safety, an alternate emergency access may be required.
- C. Roads within the PURD shall be privately owned and maintained and shall be designed with sufficient width, suitable grade and adequate construction to safely provide for the needs of vehicular traffic generated by the development. Access roads shall be designed and constructed according to the requirements of the Wilbraham Subdivision Regulations or as otherwise modified by the Planning Board.
- D. Garages or off-street parking spaces, or a combination thereof, shall be provided for all occupants, employees, and visitors, and shall be not less than two (2) spaces per dwelling unit.
- E.\* The development shall be served by sidewalks designed and constructed in accordance with ADA requirements and the Planning Board's Subdivision Regulations. The use of exterior stairs and raised curbing in area where there will be pedestrian activity shall be minimized.

#### **4.8.10\* Landscaping Requirements**

- A. A coordinated landscape design for the entire project area, including landscaping of structures, parking areas, driveways and walkways, and buffer strips, shall be submitted for approval by the Planning Board.
- B. Wherever possible, existing trees and vegetative cover shall be conserved and integrated into the landscape design.

- C. Proper maintenance of the landscaping, including the buffer strip, shall be the responsibility of the owner, and shall be a condition of conformance with the Zoning By-Law.

**4.8.11\* Common Open Space Requirements**

- A. All land within the PURD which is not covered by buildings, roads, driveways, parking areas or other development, or which is not set aside as private yards, patios or gardens for the residents, shall be common open space. The area of the common open space shall equal at least forty percent (40%) of the total area of the PURD tract. Such land shall have a shape, dimension, character and location suitable to assure its use for park, recreation, conservation, or agricultural purposes by all the residents of the development.
- B.\* Suitable and usable outdoor recreational area or areas shall be provided for the use of tenants. At least 2,000 square feet per dwelling unit must be usable open space for active and passive recreation. Such space shall not include wetlands as determined by the Conservation Commission. Usable open space shall be defined to include land for community gardens, hiking/jogging paths, tennis courts, swimming pools or similar facilities.
- C. Further subdivision of common open land or its use for other than recreation, conservation, or agriculture, except for easements for underground utilities shall be prohibited.
- D. Provision shall be made that so that the common open space shall be owned in common and readily accessible to the owners and residents of all units in the development, or by membership corporation, trust or association whose members are the owners and residents of the units, or by the Town, or otherwise as the Board may direct. In all cases, the common open space shall be subject to a perpetual restriction running to or enforceable by the Town which shall be recorded in respect to such land. Such restriction shall be in such form and substance as the Board shall prescribe and may contain such additional restrictions on development and the use of common open space as the Planning Board may deem appropriate.

**4.8.12\* Community Association**

- A.\* An owners' association shall be established, requiring membership of each lot or unit owner in the PURD. The association shall be responsible for the permanent maintenance of communal water, sewage, recreational and thoroughfare facilities. An association agreement or covenant shall be submitted with the Special Permit application guaranteeing the continuing maintenance of such common utilities, land and facilities, assessing each unit a share of maintenance expenses. Such agreement shall be subject to the review and approval of

Town Counsel and the Planning Board as part of the Special Permit and shall be recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds.

- B. Such agreements or covenants shall provide that in the event that the association fails to maintain the common facilities in reasonable order and condition in accordance with the agreement, the Town may, after notice to the association and public hearing, enter upon such land and maintain it in order to preserve the taxable value of the properties within the development and to prevent the common land from becoming a public nuisance. The covenants shall also provide that the cost of such maintenance by the Town shall be assessed ratably against the properties within the development.

#### **4.8.13\* Project Identification**

- A.\* As a condition of its approval, the Planning Board may permit a sign showing the project name to be permanently affixed at each entrance to the development which shall be designed to be compatible with the character of the development and the surrounding neighborhood. Each sign shall be of a size and design to be approved by the Planning Board provided that no such sign shall exceed twenty five (25) square feet in size.
- B. All streets shall be posted with standard street signs and all street names shall be approved by the Planning Board. Dwelling Units shall be assigned street numbers as assigned by the Assessors Office.

#### **4.8.14\* Enforcement**

- A. As a condition of its approval, the Planning Board may establish time limits for any development or phases thereof.
- B. Before any building permits are issued for buildings in a given phase, the developer may be required to provide the Town with performance security in a form and amount satisfactory to the Planning Board to guarantee the construction of required site improvements.

#### **4.8.15\* Waivers**

The Planning Board, acting as the special permit granting authority, may waive or modify any requirement of this section 4.8 for compelling reasons of safety, aesthetics or site design.

#### **4.9\* ACCESS TO LOT OTHER THAN FROM STREET FRONTAGE**

In a residence district, vehicular access to and from the lot shall be across the front lot line subject to the following exception. The Planning Board acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority may authorize by Special Permit access to a single lot or up to three (3) adjacent lots across the side lot line or rear lot line from a single or common driveway. Such access is not intended for a lot which would otherwise be inaccessible or undevelopable and the Planning Board will not issue a Special Permit in those circumstances. Such access is intended for otherwise bonafide building lots when a common driveway will improve safety or convenience of access. It is also intended for use in new Flexible Subdivisions (Section 4.6) and new Flexible Non-Subdivisions (Estate Lots) (Section 4.7). Issuance of a Special Permit shall be subject to the following conditions:

- 4.9.1** Approval shall be subject to the applicable findings required under section 13.6.5;
- 4.9.2** Each lot shall have the proper frontage on an approved way and meet the applicable requirements for lot size;
- 4.9.3** For safety reasons, if the single or common driveway has its entrance off another way, then the address for the parcel(s) must be the entrance drive location and not the frontage;
- 4.9.4** A plan of the parcel(s) shall be submitted to the Planning Board for approval and prior to endorsement must be annotated to state that further subdivision of the parcel is prohibited if such subdivision would reduce the frontage on the public way below the minimum required.
- 4.9.5\*** Common driveways shall be constructed to meet the following minimum standards which may be made more stringent at the discretion of the Planning Board where appropriate:
  - A.** Minimum turning radius of fifty (50) feet;
  - B.** Minimum width of fourteen (14) feet;
  - C.** Driveway surface able to support a minimum of sixty five thousand (65,000) pounds of gross vehicle weight; and
  - D.** Turnoff provided for every five hundred (500) feet of driveway length.

#### **4.10\* ACCESSORY APARTMENT REGULATIONS**

The purpose of this section is to provide an opportunity for home owners who cannot physically or financially maintain their single-family homes to remain in homes they might otherwise be forced to leave, and to provide more diversity of housing to meet the needs of Town residents while protecting the stability, property values, and the single-family residential character of the Town. The intent is to provide for the use of a group of rooms in a single-family residence as an apartment with its own kitchen and bathroom facilities, for the use of persons related to the resident family, subject to special precautions with respect to privacy, safety, numbers of occupants, and adequacy of water supply and sewage disposal; where the owner is a resident of the premises; and where the use of such a group of rooms is clearly accessory to the principal use of the premises as a single-family residence. It is further the intent that the structural changes, if any, necessary to effect the accessory apartment use be sufficiently modest that such use could be terminated, and reconverted to use exclusively as a single-family residence, without substantial hardship in reconstruction.

**4.10.1** The Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, may authorize an accessory apartment by special permit provided that the following standards and criteria are met:

- A.** The accessory apartment shall be contained within or added to the structure of the single-family dwelling, and shall function as a separate housekeeping unit from the single-family dwelling, complete with its own means of egress, sleeping, cooking and sanitary facilities.
- B.** Only one apartment shall be created within a single-family home.
- C.** The owner of the premises must occupy either the principal single-family dwelling or the accessory apartment. The other unit shall be occupied only by a family member. For purposes of this section, family member shall be defined as one of the relatives of the home owner or spouse such as mother, father, sister, brother, son, daughter, uncle, aunt, grandmother, grandfather and/or their spouses.
- D.** Not more than two (2) persons shall occupy the accessory apartment.
- E.** The accessory apartment shall be designed so that the overall building retains the appearance of a single-family residence. An addition to an existing single-family dwelling may be permitted provided that the addition is reasonably compatible with the character and scale of the existing building. In general, new entrances shall be located on the side or rear of the building. Any exterior changes must conform with the single family character of the neighborhood.

- F. The accessory apartment shall be clearly subordinate to the single-family dwelling. It shall be no greater than seven hundred (700) square feet, shall have no more than two (2) bedrooms, and shall occupy no more than one-third (1/3) of the total floor space of the principal single-family dwelling.
- G. The lot and structures thereon shall comply with all other applicable provisions of this Zoning By-Law.
- H. Water supply and sewage disposal facilities shall be adequate to serve the proposed use as determined by the Town Engineer. Before a special permit is issued for an accessory apartment to be served by an existing on-site septic system, the owner shall obtain a letter from the Board of Health or its agent that the sewage disposal system is adequate for the principal dwelling unit and the proposed accessory apartment.
- I. Suitable permanent off street parking shall be provided in accordance with section 11.2.
- J. The construction of any accessory apartment shall require a building permit and shall be constructed in conformity with State Building Code requirements.
- K. The Planning Board may allow reasonable deviation from the conditions stated herein under special and appropriate circumstances when, in the judgment of the Planning Board, such action is in the public interest and not inconsistent with the purpose and intent of this section or where necessary to install features that facilitate access and mobility for disabled and handicapped individuals.

**4.10.2** The procedure for the submission and approval of a special permit for an Accessory Apartment in an Owner-Occupied, Single-Family Dwelling shall be as described in Section 13, except that it shall include a notarized letter of application from the owner(s) stating that the owner(s) will be occupying one of the units and that the other unit will be occupied only by family members as defined herein. Such letter shall state the name and family relationship of all occupants to be living on the premises.

**4.10.3** Upon receiving a special permit, the owner(s) shall file on subject property a Declaration of Covenants at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds. A time stamped copy of this recorded Declaration shall be provided to the Planning Board and the Building Inspector prior to applying for a building permit. The recorded Declaration shall include the following requirements which shall appear as conditions of all special permits issued under this section:

- A. That the owner(s) shall occupy one of the units on said premises and that the other unit shall be occupied only by family members as defined by this section of the By-Law.

- B.** At the beginning of each calendar year, the owner(s) shall file a notarized statement with the Planning Board listing the name and family relationship of all occupants residing on the premises.
  - C.** The special permit for the accessory apartment in said owner-occupied, single-family home shall terminate upon any change in occupancy in violation of the terms of the special permit. In such event, the owner(s) of the altered dwelling must dismantle the cooking facilities for the accessory apartment and restore the dwelling to a single-family residence forthwith. Except that relief from enforcement of this Zoning By-Law shall be accorded by the Planning Board upon a showing of hardship by the Petitioner.
  - D.** The special permit for the accessory apartment in said owner-occupied, single-family home shall also terminate upon the sale of the property or transfer of the title of the dwelling. In such event, the owner(s) of the altered dwelling must dismantle the cooking facilities for the accessory apartment and restore the dwelling to a single-family residence as a condition of sale or transfer of title, unless a new special permit is obtained from the Planning Board.
- 4.10.4** An accessory apartment authorized by special permit may be continued as a lawful use under new ownership if the new owner(s) apply for re-approval of the special permit and the Planning Board determines that conditions imposed under the original special permit remain unchanged. Minor changes may be approved without a hearing by the Planning Board. However, the Planning Board in its sole discretion at the time of reapplication by a new owner, may require compliance with all the procedures under this section 4.10.

**SECTION 5                      RESIDENTIAL MULTIPLE DWELLING (RMD) DISTRICT**

**SECTION 5.1                      GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**  
**SECTION 5.2                      PERMITTED USES**  
**SECTION 5.3                      DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS**  
**SECTION 5.4                      DENSITY REGULATIONS**  
**SECTION 5.5                      BUILDING AND SITE CRITERIA FOR MULTIPLE DWELLINGS**

**5.1                      GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

- 5.1.1**      No land shall be used for multiple dwelling purposes, and no building shall be altered, enlarged, or erected for multiple dwelling use except in a Residential Multiple Dwelling (RMD) District, established after a public hearing and a town meeting under the Zoning Act.
- 5.1.2**      After establishment of a Residential Multiple Dwelling District, the use of land therein shall be subject to a special permit issued by the Planning Board acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority in conformance with the requirements of section 5 and section 13.6.
- 5.1.3**      The applicant for a multiple dwelling permit in a Residential Multiple Dwelling District shall submit to the Planning Board acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority an application on the prescribed form together with a site plan, topographic map, floor plans and elevations of all structures and data containing all the information required hereafter. All public improvements and new public streets shall be provided under the Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land in the Town of Wilbraham. Said application shall contain sufficient information so that the aforesaid Special Permit Granting Authority can determine the applicability of said application for the following items:
- A.**      Is consistent with the Master Plan of Development of the Town;
  - B.**      Preserves and protects the character of the Town especially the neighborhood, giving due consideration to such features as public safety, including traffic control and traffic impact upon surrounding roads; development of adequate recreational facilities for the use of the residents of said proposal; adequate fire protection; public health including sewerage disposal; drainage and water supply; and the compatibility of the size, location, architecture, and landscaping of said project with the adjacent neighborhood and the Town;
  - C.**      Has no adverse environmental impact upon the Town after taking into account the analysis of the Environmental Impact Report prepared and submitted by the applicant or the Conservation Commission;
  - D.**      Is likely to result in a financially stable, soundly and attractively constructed and well managed and maintained project; and

- E. Conforms to the specific provisions of this By-Law, including the design guidelines of section 13.4.

Said permit shall not be issued unless the aforesaid Special Permit Granting Authority affirmatively determines that each of the criteria is met by said applicant.

- 5.1.4 No building permit shall be issued for a multiple family dwelling or accessory building except in strict conformance with the site plan endorsed with the approval of the Planning Board acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority. A Certificate of Occupancy shall not be issued for a multiple family dwelling until all of the requirements of this Section 5 have been met, unless uncompleted public improvements not essential to the occupancy and utilization of said premises, in the opinion of the Planning Board acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, and protective provisions are covered by a performance bond filed with and acceptable to the Special Permit Granting Authority.

## 5.2 PERMITTED USES

In Residential Multiple Dwelling Districts no part of any building or structure shall be used except for:

- 5.2.1 Buildings and group buildings designed and used for multiple dwelling purposes, provided no single building or group of connected buildings contain less than four dwelling units.
- 5.2.2 Uses accessory to multiple dwelling use, but expressly excluding any commercial or retail enterprises.

## 5.3 DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS

Property for multiple family use shall comply with the following minimum requirements:

### 5.3.1 Lot Size

- A. The minimum area of the parcel shall be not less than ten (10) acres.
- B. A minimum of seven and one-half (7.5) acres of the area required for zoning compliance shall consist of usable land as defined in Section 1.3.

### 5.3.2\* Lot Frontage

- A. The minimum frontage on a public street shall be at least two hundred and fifty (250) feet.

### 5.3.3 Front Yard (Setback)

- A. On a parcel with not less than five hundred (500) feet of frontage on a public street, the minimum front yard shall be not less than fifty (50) feet.

- B. On a parcel with less than five hundred (500) feet but more than two hundred and fifty (250) feet of frontage on a public street, the minimum front yard shall be not less than eighty (80) feet.
- C. In the case of a corner lot or through lot, the above setback requirements shall apply on both streets.

**5.3.4 Side Yard**

- A. The minimum side yard shall be not less than eighty (80) feet.
- B. A landscaped buffer strip not less than thirty (30) feet wide within the side yard, as described in Section 10.2, shall be provided along the side lot lines of abutting property.

**5.3.5 Rear Yard**

- A. The minimum rear yard shall be not less than eighty (80) feet.
- B. A landscaped buffer strip not less than thirty (30) feet wide within the rear yard, as described in Section 10.2, shall be provided along the rear lot lines of abutting property.

**5.4 DENSITY REGULATIONS**

**5.4.1** The maximum number of dwelling units per acre shall average eight (8) if on an approved municipal sewerage system.

**5.4.2** The maximum number of dwelling units per acre shall average four (4) if on an individual or group subsurface sewerage disposal system.

**5.5 BUILDING AND SITE CRITERIA FOR MULTIPLE DWELLINGS**

**5.5.1 Dwelling Units Per Building**

No building shall contain less than four (4) dwelling units.

**5.5.2 Building Height**

No building shall exceed two (2) stories in height above the ground.

**5.5.3 Building Length**

- A. No single building or group of connected buildings shall have a total length which is more than six (6) times its height.
- B. Where the walls of two (2) buildings or two (2) wings of a group building are parallel or substantially parallel, the length of the walls where opposite each other shall not exceed twice the height of the building.

**5.5.4 Setback Distance Between Buildings**

Buildings shall be so grouped that the walls of any building are not less than sixty (60) feet in a straight line from the walls of a separate unconnected building or substantially parallel wings of a connected building.

### **5.5.5 Dwelling Unit Floor Area**

**5.5.5.1** Each dwelling unit shall contain not less than the following minimum floor area:

- A.** Minimum size, one or two room: four hundred and fifty (450) square feet.
- B.** For each additional room: add one hundred and twenty five (125) square feet.

Except that this shall not require a floor area greater than seven hundred and sixty eight (768) square feet for any dwelling unit.

**5.5.5.2** In computing the required minimum floor area, only the area devoted to the exclusive use of the dwelling unit for living purposes shall be considered. No area shall be counted or used as a bedroom unless said area constitutes an identifiable separate room, with one (1) outside window and four (4) walls which separate said room from other rooms. Outside balconies, storage area separate from the dwelling unit, public halls and other areas used in common with other tenants shall not be included.

### **5.5.6 Maximum Number of Bedrooms**

The maximum number of bedrooms or rooms used primarily for sleeping purposes per dwelling unit shall be two (2).

### **5.5.7 Garages Or Off-street Parking Spaces**

Garages or off-street parking spaces, or a combination thereof, shall be provided for all occupants, employees, and visitors, and shall be not less than one and one-half (1 1/2) car spaces per dwelling unit, and not less than one (1) such parking space per unit shall be located with convenient access to the rear entrances to buildings.

- A.** Parking areas for more than twenty (20) cars shall have at least two (2) means of access to a public street or to a service driveway connecting with a public street.
- B.** Garages, parking spaces, and driveways shall be not less than twenty (20) feet from a wall with one or more windows or doors nor less than six (6) feet from a blank wall in a principal building.
- C.** Parking shall not be permitted in front of the rear line of any building unless approved by the Planning Board acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority as set forth in Section 5.1.2.
- D.** All parking requirements shall conform to the requirements of Section 11.
- E.** Access roads shall be of adequate width to insure safety and located so as to provide a logical traffic pattern.

- F. A one-way driveway shall be not less than nine (9) feet wide and a two-way driveway shall be not less than eighteen (18) feet wide.

**5.5.8 Outdoor Recreational Area**

A suitable and usable outdoor recreational area or areas shall be provided for the outdoor use of tenants, adequately landscaped or fenced apart from service areas, buildings, driveways and parking areas, and streets.

**SECTION 6\*            NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE (NO), NEIGHBORHOOD SHOPPING (NS) AND GENERAL BUSINESS (GB) DISTRICTS**

- SECTION 6.1            GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**
- SECTION 6.2            PERMITTED USES**
- SECTION 6.3            DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS**
- SECTION 6.4            [DELETED]**
- SECTION 6.5            RETAIL SALES OF AUTOMOBILES AND TRUCKS**

**6.1\*    GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

In Neighborhood Office (NO), Neighborhood Shopping (NS) and General Business (GB) Districts, the existing uses of land and building shall not be changed, altered, or enlarged, and no new uses of land or construction of new buildings will be permitted except in conformance with the provisions of Section 6 of this By-Law.

- 6.1.1**    Landscaped buffer strips shall be provided as required in Section 6.3 and shall conform to the requirements of Section 10.2, and their proper maintenance shall be assured.
- 6.1.2**    Entrance driveways and vehicular movement shall be designed to lessen congestion in the streets, with due regard to driveways to other properties and to safe pedestrian travel.
- 6.1.3**    Off-street parking and truck unloading shall conform to the requirements of Section 11 of the Zoning By-Law.
- 6.1.4**    Signage shall conform to the requirements of Section 12 of the Zoning By-Law.
- 6.1.5**    Where a landscaped buffer strip does not limit to the premises the light source of all exterior lighting then such lighting shall be so shaded that the source of light shall not be visible off the premises.
- 6.1.6**    All public improvements and new public streets shall be provided under the applicable Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land of the Town.
- 6.1.7**    Subject to site plan approval by the Planning Board, it may be permissible for adjacent property owners to use a common entrance in order to minimize curb cuts.

**6.2    PERMITTED USES**

Refer to Section 3, Use Regulations.

### 6.3\* DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS

In Neighborhood Office (NO), Neighborhood Shopping (NS) and General Business (GB) Districts, no land shall be used and no building shall be constructed or altered except in conformance with the following schedule:

	ZONING DISTRICT		
	NO	NS	GB
<b>Minimum Lot Frontage</b> (feet)	100	200	150
<b>Minimum Lot Area</b> (square feet)	20,000	60,000	30,000
<b>Minimum Front Yard</b> (feet)	40 (a)	25 (a) (b)	50 (a)
<b>Minimum Side Yard</b> (feet)	15 (c)	15 (c)	12 (c)
<b>Minimum Rear Yard</b> (feet)	30 (c)	30 (c)	20 (c)
<b>Maximum Building Coverage</b> (percent)	20	25	30
<b>Maximum Building Height</b> (stories)	1	1	3
<b>Maximum Building Height</b> (feet)	25	25	40

Footnotes from the Table:

- (a)\* In the NO, NS and GB Districts, the required front yard shall contain a landscaped buffer strip as described in Section 10.2 which shall be no less than ten (10) feet in width. The remaining part of the front yard may be used for off street parking.
- (b) In the NS District, front yards across the street from a residential district shall contain a landscaped buffer strip as described in Section 10.2 which shall be no less than twenty (20) feet wide.
- (c)\* In the NO, NS and GB Districts, side and rear yards abutting a residential district shall contain a landscaped buffer strip as described in Section 10.2 which shall be no less than twenty (20) feet wide.

**6.4\* [DELETED]**

**6.5 RETAIL SALES OF AUTOMOBILES AND TRUCKS**

Retail sales by a franchised dealer of new automobiles and new trucks are permitted in GB Districts when authorized by a Special Permit issued by the Planning Board acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority subject to the following restrictions:

- 6.5.1** Subject to all of the applicable general findings required in Section 13.6.5.
- 6.5.2** Retail sales of used automobiles and used trucks are only permitted as an ancillary use. In no event shall the percentage of used automobiles or trucks displayed or stored on the premises exceed forty (40) percentage of the total number of new and used automobiles or trucks displayed or stored on said premises during any one week period.
- 6.5.3** Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 6.3 of the Zoning By-Law, no special permit shall be issued unless said lot has a minimum lot frontage of three hundred (300) feet on a public way; a minimum lot area of two hundred thousand (200,000) square feet and an average depth of at least four hundred (400) feet. In addition, at least twenty-five (25) percent of the total area of said lot shall remain unoccupied by buildings, storage or parking.
- 6.5.4** No special permit shall be issued unless a building is constructed or located on said lot which consists of at least one thousand (1,000) square feet of ground space utilized for the purpose of displaying new automobiles or trucks, and aggregate ground floor space of at least seventy-five hundred (7500) square feet. Repairs of new and used automobiles and trucks shall take place inside of said building.
- 6.5.5** Indoor display of automobiles and trucks is permitted as a principal use, without limitation as to the number of units.
- 6.5.6** Outdoor display of automobiles and trucks is permitted as a principal use provided that no automobiles or trucks shall be displayed or stored within the front yard, side yard or rear yard setback requirements. If said lot abuts against a residential zone, said storage or display of automobiles and trucks shall be effectively screened from view from said adjacent residential district by a natural or artificial barrier in accordance with Section 10.2 of said Zoning By-Law.
- 6.5.7** No such special permit shall be granted unless the following additional conditions are met:
  - A.** No retail sales of gasoline to the general public shall be permitted;
  - B.** Off-street loading and unloading shall be required at all times;

- C. All signs shall conform to Section 12 of said Zoning By-Law and in addition no flags, banners, ribbons, and similar advertising and display devices shall be permitted;
  - D. There shall be at least one separate entrance and exit divided by a traffic island, unless otherwise required by the Special Permit Granting Authority;
  - E. The site plan shall contain adequate provisions for customer parking.
- 6.5.8** All open air surface parking areas shall be landscaped in the following manner:
- A. Parking areas with a capacity of twenty-five (25) parking spaces or less shall be excluded from the provisions of this subsection;
  - B. Parking areas with a capacity of more than twenty-five (25) spaces shall have a minimum of two (2) percent of the gross parking area devoted to landscaped open space. All such landscaped areas must both: (1) contain live shade and/or ornamental trees with adequate spaces being left unpaved for their growth, and (2) place such landscaped areas so they are not contiguous to the edge of parking lot;
  - C. These landscaped areas must be in addition to the front, rear, and side yard setbacks required by this Zoning By-Law.
- 6.5.9** The sound pressure level measured at one thousand cycles per second (1,000 CPS) on the lot lines will not exceed eighty decibels (80 dB) during normal working hours or seventy decibels (70 dB) at other times. Measurements will be made with a sound level meter and associated octave sound filter manufactured in accordance with the American Standards Association.
- 6.5.10** All other provisions of the Zoning By-Law shall apply except as expressly modified herein.

**SECTION 7                    INDUSTRIAL, PROFESSIONAL OFFICE PARK, AND  
GENERAL BUSINESS (I-POP-GB) DISTRICT**

**SECTION 7.1                GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**  
**SECTION 7.2                GENERAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**  
**SECTION 7.3                PERMITTED USES**  
**SECTION 7.4                DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS**  
**SECTION 7.5                PROFESSIONAL OFFICE PARK REGULATIONS**

**7.1      GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

In the Industrial, Professional Office Park, and General Business (I-POP-GB) District the existing uses of land and buildings shall not be changed, altered, or enlarged, and no new uses of land or construction of new buildings will be permitted except in conformance with the provisions of Section 7 of this By-Law.

- 7.1.1**      Landscaped buffer strips shall be provided as required in Section 7.4 and shall conform to the requirements of Section 10.2, and their proper maintenance shall be assured.
- 7.1.2**      Entrance driveways and vehicular movement shall be designed to lessen congestion in the streets, with due regard to driveways to other properties and to safe pedestrian travel.
- 7.1.3**      Off-street parking and truck unloading shall conform to the requirements of Section 11 of the Zoning By-Law.
- 7.1.4**      Signage shall conform to the requirements of Section 12 of the Zoning By-Law.
- 7.1.5**      Where a landscaped buffer strip does not limit to the premises the light source of all exterior lighting then such lighting shall be so shaded that the source of light shall not be visible off the premises.
- 7.1.6**      All public improvements and new public streets shall be provided under the applicable Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land of the Town.
- 7.1.7**      Subject to site plan approval by the Planning Board, it may be permissible for adjacent property owners to use a common entrance in order to minimize curb cuts.

## **7.2 GENERAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

The following standards of performance and use shall apply in the I-POP-GB District.

- 7.2.1** Where an industrial use is located beyond the service area of public water supply, adequate provision for fire protection in the judgment of the Fire Chief of Wilbraham shall be made.
- 7.2.2** The storage of flammable or explosive materials shall be in a manner approved by the Fire Chief of Wilbraham, who may require any precautionary measures necessary in his judgment to eliminate serious exposure hazards to life and property.
- 7.2.3** The use shall emit no offensive odors perceptible at any property line of the lot on which the operation is located, and shall emit no noxious, toxic, or corrosive fumes or gases.
- 7.2.4** The use shall not exhaust or waste into the air dust created by an industrial operation in excess of one cubic centimeter of settled matter per cubic meter of air, or produce heat or glare perceptible from any property line of the lot on which the operation is located for a period exceeding three continuous minutes.
- 7.2.5** Industrial and exterior lighting shall not produce glare on public highways or neighboring property, or conflict with any traffic signals.
- 7.2.6** Smoke or other air contaminant shall not be discharged into the atmosphere from any single source of emission for a period or periods aggregating more than three minutes in any one hour, which is as dark or darker in shade than as designated as No. 2 on the Ringelman Chart, as published by the United States Bureau of Mines, or which is of such opacity as to obscure an observer's view to a degree equal to or greater than does smoke designated as No. 2 on the Ringelman Chart.
- 7.2.7** The use shall be operated in conformance with the following performance standards governing noise. Between the hours from 7 p.m. Friday and 7 a.m. the following Monday, and between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. on other days, no sound pressure level shall exceed the decibel levels in the designated octave bands shown below. Sound levels shall be measured at the zone boundary lines within which the subject use is located, and with a sound level meter and associated octave band filter manufactured in accordance with the American Standards Association. Measurements shall be made using the flat network of sound level meter.

[refer to chart on following page]

<b>PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PLANNED DEVELOPMENT ZONES - INDUSTRY</b>		
<b>Maximum Permitted Sounds Levels</b>		
<u>OCTAVE BAND</u> (cycles per second)	<u>ABUTTING RESIDENCE ZONES</u> (decibels)	<u>ABUTTING OTHER ZONES</u> (decibels)
75	72	79
75-150	67	74
150-300	59	66
300-600	52	59
600-1200	46	53
1200-2400	40	47
2400-4800	34	41
Above 4800	32	39

**7.2.7.1** The Chief of Police of Wilbraham may issue permits for exceptions to this noise requirement as to hours and days.

**7.3 PERMITTED USES**

Refer to Section 3 Use Regulations.

**7.4 DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS**

In Industrial Districts no land shall be used and no building shall be constructed or altered except in conformance with the following schedule:

<b>MINIMUM LOT AREA</b>	40,000 square feet
<b>MINIMUM LOT FRONTAGE</b>	150 feet
<b>MINIMUM FRONT YARD</b>	60 feet (see 7.4.1)
<b>MINIMUM SIDE YARD</b>	30 feet (see 7.4.2)
<b>MINIMUM REAR YARD</b>	50 feet (see 7.4.2)
<b>MAXIMUM BUILDING COVERAGE</b>	25 percent
<b>MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT</b>	3 stories
<b>MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT</b>	40 feet

- 7.4.1 The required front yard shall contain a landscaped buffer strip as described in Section 10.2 which shall be no less than ten (10) feet in width. The remaining part of the front yard may be used for off street parking.
- 7.4.2 Side and rear yards abutting a residential district shall contain a landscaped buffer strip as described in Section 10.2 which shall be no less than twenty (20) feet wide.

## 7.5 PROFESSIONAL OFFICE PARK REGULATIONS

Professional Office Parks are allowed when authorized by a special permit subject to the following restrictions:

- 7.5.1 Subject to all of the applicable general findings required in Section 13.6.5.
- 7.5.2 Professional offices shall include but not be limited to the following: offices of accountants, architects, brokers/market analysts, chiropractors, dentists, doctors, engineers, lawyers, photographers, planners/landscape architects, real estate agents, travel consultants, insurance agents, banks and governmental agencies.
- 7.5.3\* Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 7.4 of the Zoning By-Law, no special permit shall be issued unless said lot has a minimum lot frontage of two hundred (200) feet and a minimum lot area of sixty thousand (60,000) square feet.
- 7.5.4 The minimum size building permitted shall consist of at least four thousand (4,000) square feet of ground floor area.
- 7.5.5 Open air surface parking shall be provided on the basis of one (1) space per two hundred (200) square feet of building floor area exclusive of basements, stairs, garages, and area used solely for utility and storage purposes.
- 7.5.6 A minimum of five (5) percent of the total parking and circulation area shall be landscaped open space. Said landscaped open space shall provide:
  - A. A minimum of two (2) shade trees or four (4) shrubs, or a combination thereof, per ten (10) parking spaces or fraction thereof. Such trees shall be a minimum of one and one-half (1 1/2) to two (2) inches in diameter at the time of planting. Such shrubs shall be from eighteen (18) to twenty-four (24) inches in diameter and/or height at the time of planting. In no case shall less than two (2) trees and four (4) shrubs be provided.
  - B. Landscaped areas shall be placed so they are not contiguous to the edge of the parking lot.
  - C. Landscaped areas shall be in addition to the front, rear, and side yard setbacks required by this Zoning By-Law.

**7.5.7** Signs shall conform to Section 12 of the Zoning By-Law.

**7.5.7.1\*** Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 12.7 of the Zoning By-Law, the total area of a sign or signs affixed to a building shall not exceed three (3) percent of the total area of the building wall on which the sign or signs are mounted. The total area of a free-standing sign shall not exceed forty (40) square feet. A free-standing sign shall not exceed fifteen (15) feet in height.

**7.5.7.2\*** Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 12.7 of the Zoning By-Law, not more than one (1) free-standing sign is allowed for each two hundred (200) feet of frontage regardless of the number of tenants or occupants of the property.

**SECTION 8\*            ADULT CARE FACILITIES (ACF) DISTRICT**

**SECTION 8.1            PURPOSE**  
**SECTION 8.2            USE REGULATIONS**  
**SECTION 8.3            APPLICATION**  
**SECTION 8.4            DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS**  
**SECTION 8.5            DENSITY REGULATIONS**  
**SECTION 8.6            BUILDING REQUIREMENTS**  
**SECTION 8.7            UTILITIES**  
**SECTION 8.8            PARKING AND CIRCULATION REQUIREMENTS**  
**SECTION 8.9            LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS**  
**SECTION 8.10           PROJECT IDENTIFICATION**  
**SECTION 8.11           ENFORCEMENT**

**8.1    PURPOSE**

It is the purpose of this section to permit and regulate, for the public health, safety, convenience, and welfare of the citizens of the Town of Wilbraham, development of any of a wide variety of facilities designed to provide some form of assisted living to elderly adults, the disabled or chronically ill.

**8.2    USE REGULATIONS**

The following uses shall be permitted in the Adult Care Facilities (ACF) District:

- 8.2.1\***            Medical office buildings as specified in section 3.4.5.1 with a gross floor area of three thousand (3,000) square feet or less subject to site plan approval from the Planning Board in conformance with the procedures specified in section 13.5.
- 8.2.2\***            Medical office buildings as defined in section 3.4.5.1 with a gross floor area exceeding three thousand (3,000) square feet by special permit from the Planning Board in conformance with the procedures specified in section 13.6.
- 8.2.3\***            Adult Care Facilities (ACF) as defined in section 1.3 by special permit from the Planning Board in conformance with the procedures specified in Section 8.0 and Section 13.6. In the interest of providing a broad diversity in the type of adult care facilities developed within the district, the Planning Board may deny a special permit for a particular use if in its judgment such use is already adequately represented within the district.

### **8.3 APPLICATION**

- A.** The applicant for an ACF special permit shall submit to the Planning Board a written application on the prescribed form containing all the information required hereafter including the following materials:
1. A Development Statement setting forth the development concept, including the particular type of Adult Care Facility, number of dwelling units, care rooms or beds, type and size of units, staff facilities, common areas, ground floor coverage of the site, and parking as related to both gross building area and number of units or beds. The Development Statement shall list the development team and affiliated companies, and shall identify prior experience by name, type, and specific location.
  2. A Development Site Plan of the entire tract in accordance with this section and Section 13.3, and a Development Site Plan delineating the proposed development in relation to any other development within the ACF District.
  3. Floor plans and elevations of all proposed buildings.
  4. A traffic study of the area as it may be affected by the proposed development, including present and anticipated traffic counts, flow patterns, and capacity analysis of present and proposed intersections and entrances serving the development.
  5. An engineering report regarding the adequacy of sewage disposal, domestic water supply and storm water drainage for the site and as the proposed design relates to existing utilities of the Town.
  6. A marketing and operational study of the proposed development including any studies, proposals, or licensing materials provided to, required by, or issued by the Commonwealth or other governmental authority.
- B.** Said application shall contain sufficient information so the Planning Board can make determination on the findings required in Section 13.6.5, as well as on the following items:
1. The project is consistent with the Master Plan of Development of the Town, as well as the development concept of the ACF District;
  2. The project preserves and protects the character of the Town and especially the other developments within the district;
  3. The development minimizes potentially adverse environmental impacts on the Town;
  4. The development is likely to result in a financially stable, soundly and attractively constructed and well-managed and maintained project; and
  5. The development conforms to the specific provisions of this bylaw, including the design guidelines of this section and section 13.4.

- C. Said permit shall not be issued unless the Planning Board affirmatively determines that each of the above-listed criteria is met by said applicant.

#### **8.4 DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS**

Properties in the ACF District shall comply with the following dimensional requirements:

##### **A. Minimum Lot Area**

The minimum lot area shall be sixty thousand (60,000) square feet, except that the Planning Board shall have the option of approving smaller parcels under the site plan approval process or the special permit process, when in its judgment the smaller size is appropriate for the proposed development including the required parking.

##### **B. Minimum Frontage**

The parcel shall have two hundred (200) feet of frontage on a public way, subject to the following exception. In order to best serve the welfare, safety, and convenience of the public, the Planning Board desires to see a new public or private street developed within the ACF District. Under the special permit process the Planning Board may modify or waive the normal frontage requirement if it deems access to a proposed development is safe and adequate, and furthers the development of such new street.

##### **C. Minimum Front Yard**

The minimum front yard shall be forty (40) feet, and shall contain a landscaped buffer strip as described in section 10.2 of not less than ten (10) feet. The remainder of the front yard may be used for off-street parking.

##### **D. Minimum Side Yard**

The minimum side yard shall be fifteen (15) feet, except that side yards abutting a residential district shall be not less than sixty (60) feet and contain not less than a fifty (50) foot landscaped buffer strip as described in section 10.2.

##### **E. Minimum Rear Yard**

The minimum rear yard shall be eighty (80) feet. Rear yards abutting a residential district shall contain not less than a fifty (50) foot landscaped buffer strip as described in section 10.2.

##### **F. Maximum building coverage**

The proposed building shall cover not more than thirty five percent (35%) of the site.

##### **G. Maximum building dimensions**

No proposed building shall be more than two (2) stories nor more than forty (40) feet in height.

## **8.5 DENSITY REGULATIONS**

The maximum number of dwelling units or care rooms permitted in any development within the ACF District shall be determined by the Planning Board to assure compliance with the purpose and intent of these regulations and to adequately protect the public safety and welfare.

## **8.6 BUILDING REQUIREMENTS**

### **A. Building Design**

Buildings within any development shall be architecturally compatible with other buildings within the ACF District.

### **B. Building Location**

Building location and orientation shall reflect:

1. Relationship to the street line and to other buildings in the area, in order to protect privacy and create visual coherence;
2. Views, solar access, and access to open space;
3. Organization of large developments into recognizable sub-areas in order to provide proper scale and identity;
4. Preservation of the environment by avoidance of major topographic change and by protection of significant natural site features including native trees and vegetation;
5. Reduction of visual intrusion into abutting properties in order to protect the existing character of the abutters.

## **8.7 UTILITIES**

- A. All utilities shall be placed underground.
- B. Each facility within the ACF District shall be connected to a public water supply and a public sewer system.

## **8.8 PARKING AND CIRCULATION REQUIREMENTS**

- A. There shall be an adequate, safe, and convenient arrangement of sidewalks, roadways, driveways, parking, and vehicle and pedestrian circulation.
- B. Each development within the ACF District shall design its roadway system in conformance with and in furtherance of the new street to be developed for internal circulation within the district. Even though a development parcel has adequate frontage on Boston Road the Planning Board may at its discretion require that primary or sole access to the facility be from the new street. Such requirement will serve both to improve cohesiveness of development within the district and minimize curb cuts on Boston Road.

- C. Each facility shall provide on-site parking in conformance with Section 11 of this by-law, subject to the following exception. Because of the diversity in type of development permitted in this district, the Planning Board shall have the right as part of the special permit process to either increase or decrease the required parking for a specific facility, to a level which in its judgment best serves the needs of the development and the community.

## **8.9 LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS**

- A. A coordinated landscape design for the entire project area, including landscaping of structures, parking areas, driveways, walkways, and buffer strips, shall be submitted to the Planning Board for approval.
- B. Wherever possible, existing trees and vegetative cover shall be conserved and integrated into the landscape design.
- C. Proper maintenance of the landscaping, including buffer strips, shall be the responsibility of the owner, and shall be a condition of the special permit.

## **8.10\* PROJECT IDENTIFICATION**

- A. All signage shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 12.8.
- B. All streets shall be posted with standard street signs and all street names shall be approved by the Planning Board. Dwelling Units shall be assigned street numbers by the Assessors Office.

## **8.11\* ENFORCEMENT**

- A. As a condition of its approval, the Planning Board may establish time limits for any development or phases thereof.
- B. Before any building permits are issued, the developer may be required to provide the Town with performance security in a form and amount satisfactory to the Planning Board to guarantee the construction of required streets and site improvements.

## **SECTION 9 OVERLAY DISTRICT REGULATIONS**

<b>SECTION 9.1</b>	<b>FLOOD PLAIN DISTRICT</b>
<b>SECTION 9.2</b>	<b>GROUND WATER PROTECTION DISTRICT</b>
<b>SECTION 9.3*</b>	<b>RIDGELINE AND HILLSIDE DISTRICT</b>

### **9.1 FLOOD PLAIN DISTRICT**

#### **9.1.1 Purposes**

The purposes of this district (in addition to those enumerated elsewhere in this Zoning By-Law) are:

**9.1.1.1** To provide that lands in the Town of Wilbraham subject to seasonal or periodic flooding as described hereinafter shall not be used for residence or other purposes in such a manner as to endanger the health, safety or welfare of the occupants thereof, or of the public generally, or so as to burden the public with costs resulting from unwise individual choices of land use.

**9.1.1.2** To assure the continuation of the natural flow pattern of the water course(s) within the Town, in order to provide adequate and safe floodwater storage capacity to protect persons and property against the hazards of flood inundation.

#### **9.1.2\* Scope of Authority**

The Flood Plain District is herein established as an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this By-Law. All regulations of the Wilbraham Zoning By-Law applicable to such underlying districts shall remain in effect, except that where the Flood Plain District imposes additional regulations, such regulations shall prevail.

All development in the Flood Plain District, including structural and non-structural activities, whether permitted by right or by special permit, must be in compliance with Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws and the Flood Resistant Construction Regulations of the State Building Code (Section 780 CMR 3107). Any variances from the provisions and requirements of the above referenced state regulations may only be granted in accordance with the required variance procedures of these state regulations.

#### **9.1.3 District Delineation**

**9.1.3.1\*** The Flood Plain District includes all special flood hazard areas designated as Zone A or Zone A1-30 on the Wilbraham Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), panel 250154-0005D dated June 15, 1988 and panel 250154-0010C dated July 10, 1981, as amended.

**9.1.3.2\*** The regulatory floodway is designated on the Wilbraham Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), panel 250154-0005 dated June 15, 1988 and panel 250154-0010C dated July 10, 1981, as amended.

**9.1.3.3\*** These maps as well as the accompanying Wilbraham Flood Insurance Study are incorporated herein by reference as part of the Zoning Map and are on file with the Town Clerk, Planning Board and Building Inspector.

**9.1.3.4** Within Zone A, where the base flood elevation is not provided on the FIRM, the Building Inspector shall obtain and review existing base flood elevation data. If the data is sufficiently detailed and accurate it shall be relied upon to require compliance with this Zoning By-Law.

#### **9.1.4 Permitted Uses**

**9.1.4.1** In the Flood Plain District no new buildings shall be erected or constructed, no existing buildings shall be enlarged or moved except as hereinafter provided, no dumping, filling or earth transfer or relocation shall be permitted, and no land or building shall be used for any purpose except:

- A.** Conservation of water, plants and wildlife;
- B.** Outdoor recreation, including play areas, nature study, boating, fishing and hunting where otherwise legally permitted, but excluding building and structures;
- C.** Wildlife management areas, foot, bicycle, and/or horse paths and bridges provided such uses do not affect the natural flow pattern of any water course;
- D.** Grazing and farming, including truck gardening and harvesting of crops;
- E.** Forestry and nurseries;
- F.** Temporary non-residential buildings used in connection with fishing or growing, harvesting, storage or sale of crops raised on the premises;
- G.** Buildings lawfully existing prior to the adoption of these provisions.

**9.1.4.2** The portion of any lot within the area delineated in Section 9.1.3 above may be used to meet the area and yard requirements for the district or districts in which the remainder of the lot is situated.

## **9.1.5 Uses by Special Permit**

**9.1.5.1** A special permit shall not be issued for new habitable buildings to be erected within the Flood Plain District but a special permit may be granted for the reconstruction or addition up to a maximum of fifty (50) percent increase of the existing valuation, to buildings lawfully existing prior to adoption of these provisions so long as the Board of Appeals acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority finds all criteria in Section 9.1.5.2 has been complied with.

**9.1.5.2** The Board of Appeals acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority in accordance with Section 13.6 of this By-Law, may consider and issue a special permit for a deviation from the regulations set forth in the Flood Plain District in this By-Law only upon finding all of the following:

- A.** A showing of good and sufficient cause;
- B.** A determination that failure to grant the special permit would result in exceptional hardship to the applicant;
- C.** A determination that the granting of a special permit will not result in increased flood heights, additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, create nuisances, cause fraud on or victimization of the public or conflict with existing local laws;
- D.** A determination that the special permit is the minimum necessary considering the flood hazard to afford relief.

**9.1.5.3** The Board of Appeals acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority shall provide notice of any hearings hereunder to the Planning Board, Board of Health and the Conservation Commission and shall maintain a good record of all special permit actions, including justification for their issuance and report such special permits issued in the annual report submitted to the Federal Insurance Administration.

**9.1.5.4** Under no circumstances shall a special permit be issued in the regulatory floodway.

## **9.1.6 Disclaimer of Liability**

This Zoning By-Law does not imply that land outside the areas of the Flood Plain District or uses permitted within such district will be free from flooding or flood damage. This By-Law shall not create liability on the part of the Town of Wilbraham or by any official thereof for any flood damage that may result from reliance on this By-Law or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

## **9.2 GROUND WATER PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **9.2.1 Purpose**

To promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the Town by protecting the ground water supply underlying the Town from depletion and contamination, and thereby assuring that a quality source of ground water is available to meet the future needs of the Town.

### **9.2.2 Scope of Authority**

The Ground Water Protection District is herein established as an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this By-law. All regulations of the Wilbraham Zoning By-Law applicable to such underlying districts shall remain in effect, except that where the Ground Water Protection District imposes additional regulations, such regulations shall prevail.

### **9.2.3 District Delineation**

The Ground Water Protection District is hereby established as comprising all the land in the Town of Wilbraham and is so delineated on a map entitled "Aquifer Protection District, Town of Wilbraham, Resource Protection Program, February 1980", as amended.

### **9.2.4 Restricted Uses**

#### **9.2.4.1 Underground Storage of Liquid Chemicals and Fuels.**

- A.** The underground storage of liquid chemicals and fuels shall only be permitted in tanks constructed of fiberglass or other approved corrosion proof materials as prescribed by the Fire Chief of the Town of Wilbraham.
- B.** The minimum size tank for underground storage shall be five-hundred fifty (550) gallons.
- C.** All storage tank installations shall meet or exceed the existing and updated governmental regulations as administered by the Fire Chief of the Town of Wilbraham.

#### **9.2.4.2 Industrial and Commercial Uses.**

Industrial and commercial uses shall be subject to the issuance of a special permit. In addition to site plans and other information currently submitted to Town agencies, commissions and boards, an applicant shall submit to the Board of Selectmen information including but not limited to:

- A.** The approximate amount and composition of leachable wastes used, produced or handled and proposed methods of disposal of such wastes;

- B. The amount and composition of any hazardous materials that are used, produced, handled or transported on site;
- C. Copies of appropriate reports required by State and Federal regulatory agencies controlling water quality and handling of hazardous waste or hazardous materials.

## **9.2.5 Prohibited Uses**

### **9.2.5.1 Hazardous Waste.**

The storage of over ninety (90) days or disposal of hazardous wastes is prohibited except that a hazardous waste facility may be sited in the Industrial District where such activity may be permitted pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Sec. 11.

### **9.2.5.2 Solid Waste Landfill.**

Expanding the area of the existing or siting of additional solid waste landfill operations are prohibited. The existing solid waste landfill operation shall be operated in accordance with the best available practices and shall be terminated as soon as feasible. If alternative means for solid waste disposal are not available, the Board of Selectmen shall request an amendment to this By-Law to authorize locating a new landfill area. The location shall be determined by the Town in conjunction with the Mass. Department of Environmental Quality Engineering and/or other technical experts and shall be in conformity with the intent and purposes of this By-Law.

### **9.2.5.3 Leachable Wastes.**

Dumping in or upon the land of leachable wastes, oils, fuels, septage or other non-agricultural materials which may cause deterioration of ground water quality is prohibited.

### **9.2.5.4 Road Salt Storage.**

Siting of additional road salt (sodium chloride) storage or loading facilities is prohibited. The existing road salt open storage shall be replaced with a suitable closed structure as soon as feasible. The use of road salt shall be minimized, consistent with public highway safety requirements.

## **9.2.6 Special Permit Granting Authority**

The Board of Selectmen shall be the Special Permit Granting Authority (SPGA) for the purpose of this Section of the Zoning By-Law and shall promulgate appropriate procedure in accordance with the M.G.L. Chapter 40A and Section 13.6 of this By-Law.

## **9.2.7 Rules and Regulations**

Within twelve (12) months of Town Meeting approval of this Section of the By-Law those Town governmental boards and commissions exercising jurisdiction over ground water quality shall establish rules and regulations for the equitable administration of the provisions herein, including but not limited to:

- A.** Policy on present and future solid waste disposal facilities;
- B.** Policy on the future storage of road salt (sodium chloride);
- C.** Procedure for Board of Selectmen issuance of special permits; and
- D.** Alternative means for disposal of leachable wastes by homeowners.

## **9.3\* RIDGELINE AND HILLSIDE DISTRICT**

### **9.3.1 Purpose**

The purposes of the Ridgeline and Hillside District (in addition to those enumerated elsewhere in this Zoning By-Law) are:

- 9.3.1.1** To preserve and protect the natural scenic beauty and related natural resources of the upland areas in the Town of Wilbraham.
- 9.3.1.2** To regulate new construction, the removal of natural vegetation, especially large trees, and the excavation and alteration of land, in order to minimize any danger of erosion, sedimentation, flooding, water pollution, and other adverse impacts of development within the District or any adjacent low lying area.
- 9.3.1.3** To insure that development within the District does not reduce property values within said District or adjacent thereto by unnecessarily detracting from the natural visual setting or obstructing significant views.

### **9.3.2 Scope of Authority**

The Ridgeline and Hillside District is herein established as an overlay district and shall be superimposed on other districts established by this By-Law. All regulations of the Wilbraham Zoning By-Law applicable to such underlying districts shall remain in effect, except that where the Ridgeline and Hillside District imposes additional regulations, such regulations shall prevail.

### **9.3.3 District Delineation**

The Ridgeline and Hillside District includes all land in the Town of Wilbraham at an elevation of five hundred and fifty (550) or more feet above sea level as delineated on a map entitled "Ridgeline and Hillside Overlay District, Town of Wilbraham, MA, March 1991", as amended.

#### **9.3.4 Development Subject to Ridgeline and Hillside District Review**

Notwithstanding other provisions of this By-Law, no land development within the Ridgeline and Hillside District shall be permitted and no building permit, special permit or approval of a definitive subdivision plan under the Subdivision Control Law shall be issued until the provisions of Ridgeline and Hillside District Review have been fulfilled and site plans approved by the Ridgeline and Hillside District Review Board. Activities constituting development and subject to review within said district include the following:

- A.** The construction of a new dwelling or principal structure.
- B.** A significant addition or alteration to any dwelling or other structure, if such action affects the exterior appearance. A significant addition or alteration is defined as an alteration which increases the assessed value by fifteen (15) percent, or which adds to the height of the structure, or which substantially alters the visual profile of the property or structures thereon.
- C.** The removal, filling, excavation or alteration of earthen materials or the construction of an access road, if such action changes pre-existing drainage characteristics or sedimentation patterns, or alters the topographic or visual profile of the property.
- D.** The construction of a windmill, tower, satellite dish, antenna or other visually prominent accessory structure.
- E.** Any subdivision which requires approval under the Subdivision Control Law, M.G.L., Chapter 41.
- F.** The removal or destruction of trees, if such action results in a clear cutting or denuding of the forest cover, or an observable visual modification to the forest canopy as viewed from a public way or Public Vantage Point. Selective timber cutting shall be permitted within the area of a designated building envelope wherein principal and accessory structures have been approved. Timber cutting for the purpose of clearing land for legitimate agricultural purposes shall be permitted subject to satisfactory evidence of such intended use.

#### **9.3.5 Ridgeline and Hillside District Review Board**

The Ridgeline and Hillside District Review Board shall be the Planning Board. The Ridgeline and Hillside District Review Board shall adopt, and may periodically amend by majority vote, after a public hearing, Rules and Regulations relating to the procedures and administration of Ridgeline and Hillside District Review not inconsistent with the provisions of this By-Law or Chapter 40A of the General Laws, and shall file a copy of said Rules and Regulations with the Town Clerk.

### **9.3.6 Application Information**

The Ridgeline and Hillside Review Board shall require the following application information unless same is waived as hereinafter provided.

**9.3.6.1** Application forms are available in the Planning Office.

**9.3.6.2** All applications shall include all information and fees required by the Rules and Regulations of the Ridgeline and Hillside Review Board, as applicable, in addition to any other information that is required under this By-Law as part of an application for building permit, site plan approval, special permit or subdivision approval.

**9.3.6.3** Applications must be accompanied by a site plan. If the development site occupies only a small portion of a parcel of land, the Ridgeline and Hillside Review Board may specify that only a portion of the parcel of land in question be identified on any site plan so submitted. The site plan shall contain the required information listed under section 13.3 as well as the following additional information:

- A.** The placement, height, physical characteristics, and architectural rendering of all existing and proposed buildings and structures on the development site including building envelopes if so required.
- B.** View Points: Photographs of the site of development taken from at least three (3) significant Public Vantage Points exterior to the project together with a map to indicate the location of points and approximate distance to the proposed development.
- C.** Measures to be undertaken during and after construction to prevent erosion, sedimentation, flooding or water pollution.
- D.** Vegetation: Existing and proposed vegetation, all proposed landscaping improvements including plans depicting the type, bulk, and height of trees and shrubs.
- E.** Any other information that is necessary for the proper consideration of the application.

### **9.3.7 Design Standards**

Development in the Hillside and Ridgeline District shall be designed to blend harmoniously with the natural terrain and vegetation in order to preserve and protect the scenic character and the environmental quality of the site in accordance with the following standards:

#### **9.3.7.1 Siting of Structures and Building Characteristics**

- A.** The placement of buildings and structures shall not detract from the site's scenic qualities or obstruct significant views.
- B.** Building sites shall be placed downgrade of the ridgeline where possible and shall be located in a manner as not to break the view or exceed the elevation of the ridgeline as viewed from Public Vantage Points.
- C.** Foundations shall be constructed to reflect the natural slope of the terrain.
- D.** Roof lines and roof surfaces should be an important part of the building design and shall reflect the natural slope of the terrain.
- E.** Building materials and exterior colors shall blend with the natural landscape.
- F.** Where public views will be unavoidably affected by a structure, the building height shall not exceed twenty-five (25) feet.

#### **9.3.7.2 Landscaping**

- A.** The removal of native vegetation, especially large trees, shall be minimized. Trees may only be removed for construction of streets, driveways or structures. Selective clearing for lawns and septic systems shall be designated on the site plan.
- B.** Landscaping and plantings shall be utilized to screen buildings in open or prominent areas from significant views. Landscaping and plantings shall be generally compatible with native vegetation.

#### **9.3.7.3 Grading**

Any grading or earth moving operation is to be planned and executed in such a manner that final contours appear to be consistent with the existing terrain, both on and adjacent to the site.

#### **9.3.7.4 Utilities**

Utilities shall be constructed and routed underground.

**9.3.7.5 Erosion and Sedimentation Control**

- A. Post development runoff shall not exceed pre-development levels. All runoff from impervious surfaces shall be retained on site, and if necessary, shall be diverted to infiltration basins covered by natural vegetation which shall be designed to handle a minimum 25 year storm.
- B. Appropriate sediment and erosion control measures shall be employed to minimize the impacts during and after construction.

**9.3.7.6 Accessory Structures**

Construction of a tower, satellite dish, windmill, antenna, or other similar installation shall not obstruct the view of or from a public way, or an abutter's dwelling. Storage areas, equipment sheds, above-ground swimming pools, and similar accessory structures shall be screened from public view by dense evergreen plantings or landscaped, low earthen berms where necessary.

**9.3.8 District Review Criteria**

A Ridgeline and Hillside District application shall be approved where consistent with the following criteria:

- 9.3.8.1** Development is designed and located on the site to sensitively relate with the natural terrain and vegetation in order to preserve the visual character of the site so as not to interfere with or degrade its scenic attractiveness as viewed from either a public highway or Public Vantage Point.
- 9.3.8.2** Safeguards have been employed so that land development will not result in flooding or water pollution or cause soil erosion or sedimentation, in order to prevent the creation of a dangerous or unhealthy condition.
- 9.3.8.3** Where public views will be unavoidably affected by the proposed development, architectural and landscaping measures have been employed so as to minimize the impact.

### **9.3.9 Review Procedure**

The Ridgeline and Hillside Review Board shall review all applications subject to the provisions of this section and shall make recommendations to the appropriate decision making body concerning conformance with the design review standards contained herein.

#### **9.3.9.1 Conference.**

The applicant shall be given written notice of the public meeting at which its application will be reviewed, and shall be given an opportunity to be heard on the application.

#### **9.3.9.2 Time Schedule.**

The Ridgeline and Hillside Review Board shall review the application and issue its decision within forty-five (45) days of the receipt of the application.

#### **9.3.9.3 Decision of the Review Board**

The concurring vote of a simple majority of the Ridgeline and Hillside Review Board shall be required for any decision, and the Board's written decision shall consist of either:

- A.** Approval of the site plan based on a determination that the proposed project meets the requirements of this section.
- B.** Approval of the site plan subject to such conditions, modifications and reasonable restrictions as the Review Board may deem necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section.
- C.** Denial of the site plan based on a determination that either:
  - 1.** Insufficient information was submitted with the application for the Board to adequately review the proposal; or
  - 2.** The project does not meet the requirements of this section.

### **9.3.10 Waiver of Compliance.**

It is recognized that there will be numerous instances of development within said district which do not conflict with any of the goals of this By-Law and that a waiver should therefore be promptly and expeditiously granted by the Review Board. Such waiver may be granted where the proposed development is not extensive enough or intrusive enough to justify intervention under this By-Law, or where the land in question being developed is located in an area of the District which does not require the protection of this By-Law because of topography or other considerations. It is expressly intended that said waivers may be partially or fully granted with a minimum of expense and delay to the applicant.

To simplify the procedure for determination in cases where an applicant believes he or she is entitled to a waiver as to some or all of the filing requirements, the applicant may submit to the Ridgeline and Hillside Review Board such information as the Board shall require in order to determine whether or not the provisions of the By-Law require a detailed submission.

If the Ridgeline and Hillside Review Board, after a review of the information presented by the Applicant, is satisfied that the provisions of this By-Law do not require further action hereunder, a waiver shall be promptly issued.

## **SECTION 10      GENERAL REGULATIONS**

<b>SECTION 10.1</b>	<b>CORNER VISIBILITY</b>
<b>SECTION 10.2</b>	<b>LANDSCAPED BUFFER STRIPS</b>
<b>SECTION 10.3</b>	<b>GAS AND OIL PIPE LINES</b>
<b>SECTION 10.4</b>	<b>EARTH REMOVAL REGULATIONS</b>
<b>SECTION 10.5*</b>	<b>WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES REGULATIONS</b>

### **10.1 CORNER VISIBILITY**

Between the lines of streets intersecting at an angle of less than one hundred thirty-five (135) degrees and a line joining points on such lines twenty-five (25) feet distant from that point of intersection, no building or structure may be erected and no vegetation may be maintained between a height of three (3) feet and a height of eight (8) feet and above the plane through their average grades.

### **10.2 LANDSCAPED BUFFER STRIPS**

**10.2.1** A landscaped buffer strip is intended to provide within a reasonable period of time a visual barrier between different land uses. Except for pedestrian and vehicular passways, the area shall be used only for the planting of deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs, with lawn or other suitable and appropriate ground cover. Suitable existing growth may be incorporated into the planting. A planting plan showing the types, sizes, and location of material to be used shall be submitted.

**10.2.2** The Special Permit Granting Authority may waive the requirements of the visual barrier where it deems it to be advisable, for example, where a street is the dividing line between different land uses. Proper maintenance of a required landscaped buffer strip shall be the responsibility of the owner, and shall be a condition of conformance with the Zoning By-law. Where considered appropriate, walls and/or fences may be used in lieu of plantings upon issuance of a special permit.

### **10.3 GAS AND OIL PIPE LINES**

No building used for human habitation or human occupancy shall be located less than 40 feet from the right-of-way of any high pressure liquid petroleum transmission pipe line. Any pressure of one hundred (100) Pounds Per Square Inch (P.S.I.) or greater shall be considered to be high pressure.

### **10.4 EARTH REMOVAL REGULATIONS**

The purpose of this section is to preserve a cover-crop on the land to prevent erosion, and to control any excavation operations that may create a safety or health hazard to the public or the adjacent property owners, or be detrimental to the immediate neighborhood or to the Town of Wilbraham. The covering of excavations may be done with the top six (6) inches of soil removed

therefrom, and furnishing new top soil or loam from off the premises will not be required. Excavations which uncover ledge or rock outcrops need not be covered or seeded.

#### **10.4.1 Earth Removal Permits**

Except as otherwise provided in this section, there shall be no removal from the premises of earth, loam, sand, gravel, clay or quarry stone in any zoning district except as follows.

- A.** The Zoning Board of Appeals may issue permits for the removal of surplus material resulting from bona fide construction on one lot for a residence and accessory buildings, driveways and walks without a public hearing. The Zoning Board of Appeals shall impose the conditions set forth in Section 10.4.2 where appropriate and necessary for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Town.
- B.** The Zoning Board of Appeals may, after a public hearing, issue permits for the removal of surplus material resulting from other bona fide construction, landscape or agricultural operation being executed on the premises, provided that no permanent damage is done to the landscape. The Zoning Board of Appeals shall impose the conditions set forth in Section 10.4.2 where appropriate and necessary for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Town.
- C.** The Zoning Board of Appeals may, after a public hearing at which the Conservation Commission may submit a report, permit the removal of earth, loam, sand, gravel, clay or quarry stone in any zone (but not a Residence District except as may be permitted in Section 10.4.1.A. and 10.4.1.B. above) subject to the conditions in Section 10.4.2.

#### **10.4.2 Standards and Conditions**

- A.** The applicant shall submit a plan prepared by a registered professional engineer and registered land surveyor. This plan must show existing grades on the parcel of land from which the above material is to be removed, and essential grades on abutting parcels of land, together with proposed grades at the conclusion of the operation.
- B.** The plan shall provide for proper drainage of the area during the period of operation and after completion. In residence districts, every slope or bank above or below natural grade must be prepared at the end of each working day so that it does not exceed one foot of vertical distance in each two feet of horizontal distance. In other districts, on completion of the operation, no bank shall exceed a slope of one foot of vertical distance in each two feet of horizontal distance.
- C.** At the conclusion of the operation, or of any substantial portion thereof, the whole area where removal takes place shall be

covered with not less than six (6) inches of top soil and seeded with a suitable cover crop.

- D.\* No stone crusher or other machinery not required for actual removal of the material shall be used, unless permitted by the Zoning Board of Appeals.
- E. Before a permit is granted under this section the applicant shall post a bond in an amount approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals as sufficient to guarantee conformity with the provisions of the permit issued hereunder.
- F. In passing on such applications, the Zoning Board of Appeals shall consider the effect of such removal on surrounding property and the future usefulness of the premises when the operation is completed.
- G. The Zoning Board of Appeals shall impose such additional conditions as may in its sole judgment be for the protection of health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of the Town. Such conditions may include restrictions on use of roads and routing of vehicles; hours of operation; storage of operating equipment; restrictions on impoundment of water and slopes of banks; minimum distance of the operation from any residential lot line; and fences and other safety measures required during the period of operation.
- H. The Town Engineer or other agent designated by the Zoning Board of Appeals shall inspect each operation at least once a month and report on his inspection to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The costs to the Town of such inspections shall be billed to and paid for by the holder of the permit.

#### **10.4.3\* [deleted]**

#### **10.4.4 Expiration**

Earth removal permits shall be issued for a period of one year. A public hearing shall be held before a permit is renewed by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

### **10.5\* WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES REGULATIONS**

The purpose of this subsection of the Zoning By-Law is to establish appropriate siting criteria and standards for wireless communications facilities, to minimize the adverse impact on adjacent properties, to preserve scenic views, to limit the number and height of such facilities, to promote the shared use of existing facilities to reduce the need for new facilities, and to provide maximum wireless coverage as mandated by Section 704 of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, while protecting the historic and residential character of the Town of Wilbraham, the property values of the community and the health and safety of citizens.

### **10.5.1 General Use Restrictions**

- A.** No wireless communications facilities as defined in section 1.3 shall be erected or installed except by Special Permit from the Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, in accordance with the procedures specified in section 10.5 and section 13.6 as well as such rules and regulations as officially promulgated by the Planning Board.
- B.** Any proposed modification to an existing wireless communications facility erected or installed by Special Permit from the Planning Board including but not limited to the addition or replacement of cells, antennae or panels shall be subject to these provisions and shall require a new application. The Planning Board may waive, at its discretion, any application requirements for such modifications.
- C.** Wireless communications facilities in existence at the time of adoption of these Regulations including guyed towers, lattice towers and utility towers may be reconstructed, altered, extended or replaced on the same site by Special Permit, provided that the Planning Board finds that such reconstruction, alteration, extension or replacement will not be substantially more detrimental to the neighborhood and/or the Town than the existing structure. In making such a determination, the Planning Board shall consider whether the proposed reconstruction, alteration, extension or replacement will create public benefits such as opportunities for co-location, improvements in public safety, and/or reduction in visual and environmental impacts.

### **10.5.2 Design Guidelines**

The following guidelines shall be used when preparing plans for the siting and construction of wireless communications facilities.

- A.** To the extent feasible, wireless communications facilities shall be located on existing structures, including but not limited to buildings, water towers, telecommunications towers, utility poles and related facilities, provided that such installation preserves the character and integrity of those structures. The applicant shall have the burden of proving that there are no feasible existing structures upon which to locate.
- B.** To the extent feasible, wireless communications facilities shall be located so as to be as visually unobtrusive as possible from all views to the greatest extent possible. An applicant proposing a wireless communications facility shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Planning Board that the applicant has endeavored to minimize the visual and aesthetic impacts of the proposed facility on residential abutters; and, that the facility must be located at the proposed site due to technical, topographical or other unique circumstances.

- C.** To the extent feasible, wireless communications facilities shall be designed to accommodate the maximum number of users technologically practical. The intent of this requirement is to reduce the number of towers which will be required within the community. New towers shall be considered only upon a finding by the Planning Board that existing or approved towers cannot adequately fulfill the applicant's service requirements or accommodate the wireless communications equipment planned for the proposed tower.
- D.** All building-mounted facilities shall be designed and located so to appear as an integral part of the existing architecture of the building. No such facility shall project more than ten feet above the existing roof line of the building, or more than ten feet above the top of the existing structure upon which it is mounted, or more than five feet out from the plane of the existing wall or facade to which it is attached, provided that such projections do not otherwise violate existing yard dimensions or setback requirements.
- E.** Only free standing monopoles, with associated antennae and panels are allowed in new locations. Lattice style towers or any tower requiring guy wires for support are not allowed unless pre-existing on the location.
- F.\*** No new wireless communications tower shall be located closer than two miles to any other existing tower location unless the Applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Planning Board that:

  - 1. The proposed tower placement is critical to the provision of services and co-location is not feasible on existing towers for technical reasons; or
  - 2. The proposed tower placement will result in a significantly lower tower, will significantly facilitate co-location on the tower or will significantly improve protection of the viewshed in furtherance of the purposes of this section.
- G.\*** All wireless communications towers shall be constructed to the minimum height necessary to accommodate the immediate proposed use but shall be designed with a supporting base structure that is capable of accommodating any further increase in height associated with the anticipated future expansion in use, if any, approved by the Planning Board, provided that:

  - 1. In residential zoning districts, wireless communications facilities shall not exceed one hundred (100) feet in height as measured from ground level at the base of the tower, unless the Applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Planning Board that a taller tower will permit multiple users without significantly increasing the impact upon the viewshed and/or that the Applicant will be unable to provide service

with a shorter tower. However, in no event shall the tower height exceed one hundred fifty (150) feet.

2. In the Ridgeline and Hillside Overlay Zoning District, wireless communications facilities shall not project above the height of the existing tree canopy unless camouflaged or otherwise screened from public view.
- H.** All wireless communications towers shall be pre-engineered to fail at a pre-determined height and "fold in half" in the event of catastrophic failure.
- I.\*** The setback of a wireless communications tower from the property line of the lot on which it is located shall be at least equal to the tower's height. Further, the tower shall be located a minimum of 500 feet from any existing building that is used as a residence, school, or child care facility.
- J.** All wireless communications facilities shall be painted, colored, and/or constructed of materials that minimize the visual impact of the wireless communications facilities on adjacent abutters, residential neighbors and other areas of Town, and owners of wireless communications facilities shall endeavor to install said facilities in a manner that blends them into the structure, building, tower and/or landscape where they are located. The Planning Board may impose reasonable conditions to ensure this result including but are not limited to structural design, painting, lighting, and landscaping standards.
- K.** Fencing shall be provided to control unauthorized access by the public to wireless communications facilities and shall be compatible with the scenic character of the Town and of abutting properties and shall not be of barbed or razor wire unless completely blocked from view by shrubs or other landscaping. A landscape buffer of evergreen shrubs or tree planting shall be provided on the outside of the fenced area. All landscape plantings must be continually maintained.
- L.** Lighting shall be limited to the lighting required for emergency and for Federal Aeronautics Administration (FAA) compliance. All lighting shall be shielded to prevent undue impact on surrounding properties.
- M.\*** Accessory structures housing support equipment for wireless communications facilities shall be designed and constructed to be as unobtrusive as possible in accordance with the following guidelines:
1. If feasible, equipment shelters may be located in underground vaults.
  2. Equipment shelters located above grade shall not exceed four hundred (400) square feet in area and fifteen (15) feet in height, and if more than one such building are placed on-site

they shall be designed and constructed to be architecturally similar and compatible with each other.

3. If mandated by the Planning Board, equipment shelters shall be screened from view behind an effective year-round landscaped buffer and/or wooden fence to lessen adverse visual impacts on the surrounding neighborhood.
  4. If mandated by the Planning Board, equipment shelters shall be designed and constructed to be consistent with traditional New England architectural styles and materials (pitched roof and wood clapboard or shingle siding) to preserve the architectural and historic character of the surrounding neighborhood.
- N.** Signs shall be restricted to warning/no-trespassing signs and an identification sign displaying the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) registration number of the facility, the owner/operator, and an emergency telephone number where the owner/operator can be reached on a twenty-four (24) hour basis. All signs shall comply with the requirements of the Wilbraham Zoning Bylaw.
- O.\*** To the extent feasible, all network interconnections from the communications site shall be via land lines and all utility lines serving the facility shall be installed underground.
- P.** Existing on-site vegetation shall be preserved to the maximum extent practicable. Clearing of land shall be performed in a manner, which will maximize preservation of natural beauty and conservation of natural resources.

#### **10.5.3\* Submission Requirements**

The applicant or co-applicant for a Wireless Communications Facilities special permit must be a licensed carrier who has authority from the Federal Communications Commission to provide wireless communications services for the facility being proposed. Other co-applicants shall include the company proposing to construct the facility, other licensed carriers and tenants for the facility, and the landowner of the subject property. The applicant shall submit to the Planning Board a written application on the prescribed form containing all of the following information:

- A.** A site plan in accordance with the requirements of this section and section 13.3, which shall show all property lines, the exact location of the proposed facilities, streets, landscape features, residential dwellings and buildings within five hundred (500) feet of the facility.
- B.** A color photograph or rendition of the proposed wireless communications facilities including, but not limited to, the proposed tower with its antenna and/or panels. A rendition shall

also be prepared illustrating a view of the facility from the nearest street or streets.

- C.** A technical report prepared by a radiofrequency engineer, professional engineer or other appropriate professionals containing:
1. "coverage maps" detailing the applicant's plans for providing wireless communications service to the Town of Wilbraham;
  2. a description of the proposed wireless communications facility including the technical, economic and other reasons for the proposed location, height and design;
  3. a survey of all pre-existing structures, buildings or towers which are capable of supporting the equipment necessary to provide the intended service, and a technical report which demonstrates why any such structure, building or tower cannot be used by the applicant;
  4. a description of the capacity of the proposed facility including the number and type of panels, antenna and/or transmitter receivers that it can accommodate and the basis for these calculations;
  5. a description of the special design features utilized to minimize the visual impact of the proposed wireless communications facilities; and
  6. certification of compliance with all applicable state and federal standards.
- D.** A landscape plan showing the proposed site before and after development including topography and screening proposed to protect abutters.
- E.** If required by the Planning Board, after submitting an application for any new tower or extension in height thereto, the applicant shall schedule with the Planning Board a "crane test" at the proposed site, at the expense of the applicant, to illustrate the height and visibility of the proposed facility in accordance with the following procedures. The applicant shall arrange to erect a crane (or alternate temporary mast) to the maximum height at the location of the proposed tower and shall arrange to fly a balloon upon the crane (or temporary mast) at the maximum height at the location of the proposed tower. The balloon shall be of size (minimum three-foot diameter) and bright color that is capable of being seen for a distance of one (1) mile. In cases where topography, forest cover or other site conditions make a crane test impractical, the Planning Board may allow the floating of a tethered balloon (a "balloon test") in lieu of the crane test. Such test shall be conducted prior to the public hearing on a weekend day beginning at 8 AM and continuing for a minimum of 8 consecutive hours. The date, time and location of the field test

(and an alternative date in case of unsuitable weather conditions) shall be posted with the Town Clerk and advertised at the applicant's expense in a newspaper of general circulation in Wilbraham at least seven (7) days before the field test. In addition, written notice shall be provided to all abutters of record.

- F. If the proposed facility will extend above the tree canopy, the applicant shall prepare a visual impact analysis of the proposed facility which report shall include:
  - 1. A viewshed map. For the purposes of this section, viewshed shall mean the areas in Wilbraham which are likely to have views of the proposed facility. The viewshed shall be delineated through analysis of topographic contours to determine line-of-sights surrounding the proposed facility under the assumption that existing vegetation and structures do not exist.
  - 2. Identification of key viewpoints of the proposed facility. Said viewpoints shall, to the extent feasible, be taken from existing vantage points commonly used by the public, such as nearby residences, public buildings, noteworthy scenic or historic resources, public roads, etc.
  - 3. Photographic analysis of the key viewpoints of the proposed facility using unaltered photographs taken from eye level (five feet above grade) which show the existing (baseline) condition of these viewpoints, as well as accurate scale perspective elevation drawings, computer-altered photographs or other accurate representation showing said viewpoints with the facility in place.
- G. Proof of ownership of the proposed site, or proof of a contract or lease with the owner of the site establishing the applicant's right to construct a facility on the site.
- H. Documentation of the Carrier's legal right to install and use the proposed facility in the form of a license from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).
- I. In addition to the application fee, the Planning Board retains the right to commission independent consultants to review and analyze the application for compliance with zoning requirements. The cost for retaining such experts shall be paid by the applicant and the applicant shall pay a project review fee if so required by the Planning Board in accordance with the Rules and Regulations for Special Permits of the Planning Board.

#### **10.5.4\* Monitoring and Maintenance**

- A. Pre-testing. Prior to beginning operation of the facility, the applicant shall hire a qualified independent professional to monitor the background levels of electromagnetic frequency (EMF) radiation around the proposed facility site. A report of

monitoring results shall be prepared by the independent consultant and submitted to the Planning Board and the Building Inspector.

- B. Post-Testing. Within thirty (30) days from the date of operation of the facility and at annual intervals from the date of issuance of the special permit, the Planning Board shall require that the applicant hire a qualified independent professional to measure existing levels of electromagnetic frequency (EMF) radiation from the facility. A report of the monitoring results shall be submitted to the Planning Board stating whether the results are accurate and in compliance with the standards of the Federal Communications Commission and the American National Standards Institute.
- C. The applicant shall operate and maintain the facility in good condition and in compliance with the requirements of this section and the conditions of the special permit issued hereunder.
- D. The Building Inspector may annually require proof of certification demonstrating compliance with the standards of the Federal Communications Commission, Federal Aviation Administration, and the American National Standards Institute and required maintenance.
- E. Failure to comply with the provisions of this section 10.5 or special permit granted under this section shall be grounds for revocation of the special permit.

#### **10.5.5\* Cessation of Use and Obsolescence**

- A. Providers of wireless Communications service shall report to the Building Inspector, any cessation in the use or operation of any wireless communications facility that exceeds thirty (30) days, and such facilities shall be dismantled and removed at the owner's expense within one (1) year of cessation of use or operation.
- B. Prior to issuance of a building permit for a Wireless Communications Tower, the applicant shall post with the Town performance security in the amount set by the Planning Board. The amount shall be sufficient to cover demolition, removal and disposal of the tower and its accessories as well as the remediation of the landscape in the event the Building Inspector condemns the tower or any part accessory thereto, or deems it unused for more than one year. The applicant shall authorize and, as necessary, shall obtain the authorization of the owner of the property to allow the Town to enter upon the subject property to remove the facility in the event of condemnation or cessation of use. The Building Inspector shall give the tower's owner forty-five (45) days written notice by registered mail before demolition commences. In the event that the posted amount of performance security does not cover the cost of demolition

and/or removal, the Town may place a lien upon the property covering the difference in cost.

**10.5.6\* Waivers & Modifications**

- A. The Planning Board may waive one or more of the application filing requirements of this section if it finds that such information is not needed for a thorough review of a proposed wireless communications facility.
- B. The Planning Board may modify any provision or requirement of this section if it can be demonstrated (1) that it is technically infeasible to meet said requirement or (2) that its effect is to prohibit the proposed use throughout the Town or (3) that such modification will promote public benefits such as opportunities for co-location, improvements in public safety, reductions in visual and environmental impacts and/or otherwise promote the purposes of this section.

**SECTION 11 OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REGULATIONS**

**SECTION 11.1 GENERAL PARKING REQUIREMENTS**  
**SECTION 11.2 SCHEDULE OF OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS**  
**SECTION 11.3 PARKING AREA DESIGN AND LOCATION**  
**SECTION 11.4 LOADING AREAS**  
**SECTION 11.5 SURFACING REQUIREMENTS**

**11.1 GENERAL PARKING REQUIREMENTS**

- 11.1.1** In all districts, in conjunction with the construction, conversion and/or expansion of any structure, as well as upon the expansion of any use, parking facilities sufficient to accommodate the motor vehicles of all occupants, employees, customers, and other persons normally visiting the premises at any one time, shall be provided and maintained on the lot and off the street way.
- 11.1.2** In granting a special permit for any use, the Special Permit Granting Authority may require off-street parking spaces, standards, or conditions in addition to those set forth in this By-Law, as it deems necessary for the use.
- 11.1.3** Any specific, more stringent provision in any section of this By-Law relating to parking shall prevail over provisions in this section.
- 11.1.4\*** In granting either site plan approval or a special permit for any use, the appropriate authority may waive or modify any requirement of this section 11 for compelling reasons of safety, aesthetics or site design.

**11.2 SCHEDULE OF OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS**

Unless parking facilities are otherwise specifically approved by the Board of Appeals, every new structure, the enlargement of an existing structure or the development of a new use of land shall provide not less than the following minimum parking spaces, with unobstructed driveway access to each space:

	<b><u>Permitted Use:</u></b>	<b><u>Required Minimum Parking Spaces:</u></b>
<b>11.2.1</b>	Single and two family dwelling units.	One (1) space for each dwelling unit located to the rear of the front yard.
<b>11.2.2</b>	For single and two family houses renting rooms.	One (1) space for each rented room in addition to the dwelling unit requirements located to the rear of the front yard.
<b>11.2.3</b>	For professional offices and roadside stands.	Two (2) spaces not limited to location in addition to dwelling unit requirements to the rear of the front yard.
<b>11.2.4</b>	For multi-family dwelling units.	One and one-half spaces (1 1/2) per dwelling unit. (Refer to Section 5.5.7).

<b><u>Permitted Use:</u></b>	<b><u>Required Minimum Parking Spaces:</u></b>
<b>11.2.5</b> In Neighborhood Office and Neighborhood Shopping Districts.	One (1) space for each one hundred (100) square feet of floor space devoted to the principal use exclusive of storage and service areas.
<b>11.2.6</b> For a theater, assembly hall, or auditorium having fixed seats.	One (1) parking space for each four (4) seats.
<b>11.2.7</b> For other places of public assembly, public recreation, and for industrial plants.	One (1) parking space for each four (4) legal occupants.
<b>11.2.8</b> For a motel, inn, or tourist home.	One (1) space for each rental unit or guest room plus two (2) spaces.
<b>11.2.9</b> For a hospital or convalescent home.	One (1) parking space for each two (2) beds.
<b>11.2.10</b> For business offices and financial institutions.	One (1) parking space for each one hundred and sixty (160) square feet of building floor area, above the basement, excluding storage areas and stairs.
<b>11.2.11*</b> Self-storage facility	Adequate spaces to accommodate under normal circumstances the vehicles of employees, customers and visitors to the premises, but not less than six (6) spaces.
<b>11.2.12</b> For retail sale of automobiles and trucks.	Refer to section 6.5.
<b>11.2.13</b> For professional office parks.	Refer to section 7.5.4 and 7.5.5.
<b>11.2.20</b> For any other business or industrial use.	One (1) parking space for each two hundred (200) square feet of ground floor area, and one (1) parking space for every four hundred (400) square feet of floor area or fraction thereof above the first floor.

### **11.3 PARKING AREA DESIGN STANDARDS**

**11.3.1** Parking spaces for dwellings may be provided in a garage or as open parking spaces.

**11.3.2** A required parking space shall contain not less than one hundred and eighty (180) square feet in the case of a parking lot, or at least one hundred and thirty (130) square feet in the case of garage parking, with free access to each space.

### **11.4 LOADING AREAS**

**11.4.1** Provision shall be made for the loading and unloading of all trucks off the street and highway right-of-way, and without encroachment of required parking areas. The adequacy of space, and suitability of location shall be determined among other things by expected volume, building use, and relation to streets and access driveways.

**11.4.2** Not less than one loading space, ten (10) feet by twenty five (25) feet with fourteen (14) feet height clearance, shall be required for a building with a gross floor area of ten thousand (10,000) square feet or more.

### **11.5 SURFACING REQUIREMENTS**

Required parking and loading areas and access driveways shall have an adequate all-weather paved surface capable of allowing free and safe movement of all vehicles customarily using the facility. Nothing herein shall require the use of a hard surface on the parking space or driveway required for dwellings.

## **SECTION 12\*      SIGN REGULATIONS**

<b>SECTION 12.1</b>	<b>APPLICABILITY</b>
<b>SECTION 12.2</b>	<b>DEFINITIONS</b>
<b>SECTION 12.3</b>	<b>GENERAL STANDARDS</b>
<b>SECTION 12.4</b>	<b>EXEMPTED SIGNS</b>
<b>SECTION 12.5</b>	<b>RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS</b>
<b>SECTION 12.6</b>	<b>NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE (NO) AND NEIGHBORHOOD SHOPPING (NS) DISTRICTS</b>
<b>SECTION 12.7</b>	<b>GENERAL BUSINESS (GB) AND INDUSTRIAL-PROFESSIONAL OFFICE PARK-GENERAL BUSINESS (I-POP-GB) DISTRICT</b>
<b>SECTION 12.8</b>	<b>ADULT CARE FACILITY (ACF) DISTRICT</b>
<b>SECTION 12.9</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR SPECIFIC SIGN TYPES</b>
<b>SECTION 12.10</b>	<b>OFF-PREMISES SIGNS</b>
<b>SECTION 12.11</b>	<b>SIGN MASTER PLAN</b>
<b>SECTION 12.12</b>	<b>NON-CONFORMING SIGNS</b>

### **12.1      APPLICABILITY**

The provisions of this section shall apply to the construction, erection, alteration, use, location, and maintenance of all signs, as defined in Section 1.3, which are located out-of-doors or affixed on any part of a building for the express purpose of being visible from the exterior of the building.

### **12.2      DEFINITIONS**

As used herein this section 12, the following words and terms shall have and include the following respective meanings.

**Banner:**      A temporary sign, typically promoting special civic events sponsored by public or private not-for-profit organizations, usually made of lightweight fabric, plastic or other flexible materials and mounted on the face of a building or hung from a pole or suspended over a street.

**Boston Road Business Corridor Enhancement Sign:**      A banner sign hung from poles that are privately owned, privately maintained and located on privately owned land along the Boston Road Business Corridor in Wilbraham, and which is designed to delineate and give coherence to the Business Corridor in a uniform fashion as part of a comprehensive effort to promote the Business Corridor as a regional marketplace in synergy with the adjacent portion of the Boston Road Corridor in the city of Springfield.

**Canopy Sign.**      A sign painted on or incorporated into the cover of an awning, canopy or other fixed or retractable protective cover attached to a building or structure, and typically located over a door, entrance, window or outdoor service area.

- Directory Sign.** An on-premises sign identifying individual tenants or occupants of a building or group of buildings and that may indicate their respective professions or business activities.
- Electronic Variable Message Sign.\*** An electrically activated sign or portion thereof whose alphabetic, pictographic or symbolic informational content can be changed or altered at intermittent intervals on a fixed display surface by means of computer-programmed electronic impulses, remote control or similar technology.
- Free-standing Sign.** A self-supporting sign not attached to any building, wall, or fence, but in a fixed location. This does not include portable or trailer type signs.
- Identification Sign.** An off-premises sign which indicates the direction, distance to or general site location of a building, business development or geographic area. An Identification Sign may contain the name, address, logo, trademark or other generic identifying symbol of the building or development, but it does not list or advertise individual businesses or commercial enterprises within the development.
- Illuminated Sign.** Any sign that is artificially illuminated, either internally or externally, by means of electricity, gas, oil, or fluorescent paint.
- Incidental Sign.** A permanent sign or group of signs, which may aggregate no more than two (2) square feet, which has a purpose secondary to the use of the premises, such as “open,” “vacancy,” “no parking,” “entrance/exit,” “telephone,” “credit cards accepted” and other similar directives. No sign with a commercial message having letters larger than two (2) inches in height shall be considered an “incidental sign.”
- Menu Board.\*** A sign located on the premises of a food service establishment offering drive through window service lawfully permitted by the Planning Board which displays menu items and prices.
- Movable Sign.** A sign not permanently attached to the ground or other permanent structure, or a sign designed to be transported, including but not limited to: portable signs mounted on a chassis and wheels; signs supported by legs including A frames or T frames; menu and sandwich board signs; and balloons and other inflatable devices used as signs. Movable signs are classified as temporary signs.
- Off-Premises Sign.** Any sign that directs attention to an occupant, business, commodity, service, or entertainment conducted, sold, or offered at a location other than the premises on which the sign is located.
- On-Premises Sign.** Any sign that that directs attention to an occupant, business, commodity, service, or entertainment conducted, sold, or offered at a location on which the sign is erected or maintained.
- Pennants/Flag.** A flag or similar device hung on a pole or on the face of a building, decorated with graphics, designs, artwork, symbols and/ or lettering. “Pennants” which contain no commercial advertising

messages, logos or symbols are not considered signs under this article. Bunting and patriotic flags, such as United States, Massachusetts or Town flags, are not considered signs and are exempt from this article.

**Roof Sign.** A sign which is located above, or projected above, the lowest point of the eaves or the top of the parapet wall of any building, or which is painted on or fastened to a roof or parapet wall.

**Special Event Sign.** A temporary sign or banner affixed to a building, tent or other enclosure, pole or fence which advertises an upcoming or current event.

**Temporary Sign.** Any sign, including its support structure, that is not permanently mounted and is intended to be maintained for a reasonably short or definite period.

**Wall Sign.** Any sign which is painted on, incorporated into, or affixed parallel to the wall of a building.

**Window Sign.** A sign affixed to the surface of a window (inside or outside) or displayed behind a window so as to attract attention from the outside.

## **12.3 GENERAL STANDARDS**

### **12.3.1 Permitted Signs**

Signs that are accessory to a permitted use under Section 3.4 are allowed, provided such signs conform to the provisions of this Section. All signs not conforming to the provisions of this Section are specifically prohibited.

### **12.3.2 Prohibited Signs**

The following prohibitions shall apply to all signs in the Town of Wilbraham.

- A.** Billboards, movable signs, projecting signs and roof signs are not permitted.
- B.** Streamers, pennants, ribbons, balloons and other inflatable objects, spinners or other similar devices shall not be constructed, posted or erected. Exceptions include flags and buntings exhibited to commemorate national patriotic holidays, and temporary banners announcing charitable or civic events.
- C.\*** Moving, flashing or animated signs including signs containing reflective elements which sparkle in the sunlight are not permitted. Electronic variable message signs are not permitted except that such signs indicating only the current time and/or temperature are allowed provided they meet all other provisions of this Section.

- D. No sign shall be designed in shape, color, placement or display characteristics to resemble traffic signals or traffic control signs nor otherwise impair or cause confusion of vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
- E. Any sign advertising or identifying a business or organization which is either defunct or no longer located on the premises is not permitted and shall be removed.
- F. Except as expressly provided for elsewhere in this Section, off-premises signs are prohibited.
- G. No sign shall be erected or maintained in such manner as to create a hazard or disturbance to the health, safety and welfare of the general public.
- H. No sign shall obstruct or impair traffic visibility for the motorist at a street corner, intersection or driveway entrance or exit.
- I. No sign shall be placed on Town property or within the right-of-way of the Town without approval from the Board of Selectmen.

### **12.3.3 Measurement of Sign Area**

- A. The area of a sign shall be considered to include all lettering, wording, and accompanying designs and symbols, together with the background on which they are displayed, any frame around the sign and any “cutouts” or extensions, but shall not include any supporting structure or bracing.
- B. The area of a sign consisting of individual letters or symbols attached to or painted on a surface, building, wall, canopy or window, shall be considered to be that of the smallest quadrangle or a triangle which encompasses all of the letters and symbols.
- C. The area of a sign consisting of a three-dimensional object shall be considered being the area of the largest vertical cross-section of that object.
- D. In computing the area of signs with two (2) faces placed back-to-back, the area shall be taken as the area of either face, and if the faces are unequal, the larger shall determine the area.

### **12.3.4 Illumination of Signs**

The following standards apply to all signs illuminated internally or externally by electric power.

- A. Lighting shall be steady and not moving or intermittent or designed to attract attention by a change in intensity or by repeated motion.
- B. Any illumination provided shall be white only.

- C. The light source of any illuminated sign shall be shielded from view off the premises so that no direct light extends above ground level beyond the property lines on which the sign is located.
- D. No sign shall constitute a hazard to pedestrian or vehicular traffic because of the intensity or direction of illumination.

**12.3.5 Sign Permits**

Except as expressly provided for under Section 12.4, no sign shall be erected, altered, or relocated in any zoning district without first obtaining a permit from the Building Inspector.

**12.4 EXEMPTED SIGNS**

The following types of signs are authorized by right and may be erected and maintained without the necessity of a permit from the Building Inspector provided such signs comply with the general requirements of this Zoning By-Law. Such signs are not included in computing total sign area allowed by any part of this Section.

**12.4.1** Signs displaying the street number and/or name of the occupant of the premises. Such signs shall not exceed three (3) square feet and may be attached to the building or may be on a post and setback behind the property line.

**12.4.2** Incidental Signs

**12.4.3** Signs necessary to warn of danger such as "High Voltage". Signs necessary to prohibit trespassing and hunting that do not exceed two (2) square feet in area may be posted not to exceed one sign per fifty feet of frontage.

**12.4.4** [reserved]

**12.4.5** Signs erected or posted or maintained for public safety and welfare pursuant to any governmental function, law or other regulation.

**12.4.6** Temporary signs advertising property for sale or lease shall be permitted provided:

- A. Only one sign shall be erected and it shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area.
- B. Such signs shall be located only on the property for sale or lease.
- C. The sign shall be removed within fifteen (15) days of sale or lease.

**12.4.7** Temporary Sign of an architect, engineer or contractor erected during the period such person is performing work on the premises on which such sign is erected shall be permitted provided that such sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet in surface area.

**12.4.8** Political signs providing that:

A. Such signs are permitted only on private property.

**12.4.9** Decorative flags of a non-commercial nature displayed accessory to a residential use.

**12.4.10** Window Signs provided that such signs shall not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the total window area in which they are displayed.

**12.4.11** Temporary signs, banners or flags displayed for special events sponsored by religious, governmental or legitimate charitable organizations. Such signs shall be removed immediately following the advertised activity.

## **12.5 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS**

In all residence districts, signs that comply with the provisions hereinafter set forth are permitted. Unless otherwise specifically provided elsewhere in this Section 12, all other signs are expressly prohibited.

**12.5.1\*** Bulletin boards or signs not to exceed six (6) square feet in area necessary to nursing homes, churches, other places of worship, private schools, public libraries, public museums, public parks, playgrounds and similar uses as customarily used therewith, except that one bulletin board or sign not to exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area necessary to public schools and municipal buildings may be erected by governmental authority subject to site plan approval from the Planning Board.

**12.5.2** Real estate sign of not over six (6) square feet in area advertising the sale of real estate in a subdivision or real estate development under written annual permits from the Building Inspector.

A. Signs are to be located within the subdivision or if located outside of the original subdivision the location must be approved by the Planning Board.

B. If a subdivision has nearby outlets to more than one main thoroughfare or more than one outlet from streets within the subdivision into a main thoroughfare, more than one sign may be permitted or approved by the Planning Board.

C. No permit or approval shall be granted for a sign or signs to be located on premises not owned by the applicant unless written permission from the owner of record of the premises or adequate proof of other legal right to such use of the premises is furnished to the Building Inspector.

**12.5.3** A permanent sign identifying only the name given to the existing subdivision, real estate development or area, and intended to replace the sign referred to in Section 12.5.2 subject to written approval of the Planning Board.

**12.5.4** An announcement sign on any premises for which a special permit has been granted for a rooming or boarding house under

Section 3.6.2.8, a Bed and Breakfast Home under Section 3.6.2.10, a Home Professional Office under Section 3.6.2.12, a Home Occupation under Section 3.6.2.13 or a Family Day Care Home under Section 3.6.2.14, not larger than eighteen (18) inches by twenty-four (24) inches in size stating only the name and/or profession/business of the resident.

- 12.5.5** No colored lights shall be used on any sign for any purpose. Any illumination provided for signs shall be white, external illumination only and shall conform to the requirements of Section 12.3.4 above.

## **12.6 NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE (NO) AND NEIGHBORHOOD SHOPPING (NS) DISTRICTS**

In the Neighborhood Office (NO) and the Neighborhood Shopping (NS) Districts, signs that comply with the provisions hereinafter set forth are permitted. Unless otherwise specifically provided elsewhere in this Section 12, all other signs are expressly prohibited.

- 12.6.1** Signs shall be limited to the name and/or profession of the occupant and the product sold and services rendered on the premises.
- 12.6.2** Signs must be securely affixed flat to only one wall of the building. Such signs shall be parallel with and not project more than one (1) foot from the face of such wall and shall not project beyond or above the face of any other wall or the roof of the building.
- 12.6.3** The total area of a sign or signs affixed to a building shall be limited to one (1) sign per occupant, not to exceed twelve (12) square feet for the first forty (40) feet of building frontage plus two (2) square feet for each additional ten (10) linear feet of frontage on the street.
- 12.6.4** If more than one sign is affixed to the building, signs must be uniform in dimensions and attractive in appearance. In addition to the principal signs herein before referred to there may be one directory sign not to exceed an area of twelve (12) inches by eighteen (18) inches for each additional occupant of the premises. Directional signs without advertising not to exceed one-half (1/2) square foot in area are permitted in addition to the above signs.
- 12.6.5** No sign shall be painted or posted directly on the exterior surface of any wall, including windows and doors. All signs must be painted, posted or otherwise securely affixed to a substantial intermediary removable surface and such surface shall be securely affixed to the wall of the building. The foregoing, however, shall not prevent installation of a sign by individual letters or devices cut into or securely affixed to the exterior wall of a building, provided that such letters or devices have a minimum depth or projection of one-fourth (1/4) of an inch. The material of the sign and intermediary surface and the manner of affixation of

the sign to the intermediary surface and of the intermediary surface to the wall of the building shall be subject to the approval of the Building Inspector for the purpose of protecting the safety of the public.

- 12.6.6\*** No colored lights shall be used on any sign for any purpose. Any illumination provided for signs shall be from an external light source which shall provide light directed solely onto the sign, which shall be shaded, shielded or positioned such that the light source cannot be seen from a public way, and which shall be maintained at a sufficiently low intensity and brightness to avoid glare and unnecessary light pollution in conformance with the requirements of Section 12.3.4 above. Internally illuminated or back-lit signs are prohibited. No sign shall be illuminated between the hours of 11PM and 6AM unless the business is open for sales or service at the time.

## **12.7 GENERAL BUSINESS (GB) AND INDUSTRIAL-PROFESSIONAL OFFICE PARK-GENERAL BUSINESS (I-POP-GB) DISTRICTS**

In the General Business and the Industrial-Professional Office Park-General Business (I-POP-GB) Districts, signs that comply with the provisions hereinafter set forth are permitted. Unless otherwise specifically provided elsewhere in this Section 12, all other signs are expressly prohibited.

**12.7.1** Signs may be either affixed to the building or free-standing.

### **12.7.2 Affixed Signs.**

**12.7.2.1** Signs attached to a building must be securely affixed to, parallel with and not project more than eighteen (18) inches from the face of the building wall, and shall not project above the height of the wall or the roof of the building.

**12.7.2.2** No sign shall be painted or posted directly on the exterior surface of any wall, including windows and doors. All signs must be painted, posted, or otherwise securely affixed to a substantial intermediary removable surface and such surface shall be securely affixed to the wall of the building. The foregoing, however, shall not prevent installation of a sign by individual letters or devices cut into or securely affixed to the exterior wall of a building, provided that such letters or devices have a minimum depth or projection of one-fourth (1/4) of an inch. The material of the sign and intermediary surface and the manner of affixation of the sign to the intermediary surface and of the intermediary surface to the wall of the building shall be subject to the approval of the

Building Inspector for the purpose of protecting the safety of the public.

**12.7.2.3** If more than one sign is affixed to the building, signs must be uniform and attractive in appearance. Total area of all affixed signs must conform with Section 12.7.2.4.

**12.7.2.4** The total area of a sign or signs affixed to a building shall not exceed ten (10) percent of the area of the building frontage wall, not to exceed a maximum of one hundred (100) square feet. The building frontage wall area is defined as the exterior surface of a building other than the roof that faces or is parallel to the front yard. The building frontage wall area shall be measured in a vertical plane and is calculated as the length of the building multiplied by the average height from the ground line to the bottom of the roof line at the eaves. The sides of any jogs or projections will not be included in this measurement; but doors and window openings are counted as area for this measurement. In the case of buildings located on corner or through lots, the building frontage wall calculation shall be limited to the wall fronting on the primary street.

### **12.7.3 Free Standing Signs**

**12.7.3.1** No part of a free standing sign is to be located closer than ten (10) feet from the property line.

**12.7.3.2** A free standing sign shall be no taller than the height of the principal building/structure or twenty (20) feet, whichever is the lesser.

**12.7.3.3** The total area of a free-standing sign shall not exceed one-third (1/3) of a square foot for each linear foot of frontage, not to exceed a maximum of one hundred (100) square feet.

**12.7.3.4** Not more than one (1) free-standing sign may be erected on any lot, regardless of the number of tenants or occupants of the property; provided that the Planning Board acting as Special Permit Granting Authority may grant a special permit for one (1) additional free-standing sign if such additional sign is determined necessary due to the specific combination of uses on the lot.

**12.7.3.5** The provisions of 12.7.3.4 notwithstanding, a free-standing, off-premises sign locating a business that does not have frontage on a public way is permitted subject to receipt of a special permit from the

Planning Board. Such signs may be six (6) square feet maximum and shall not exceed six (6) feet in height.

- 12.7.3.6** Free standing signs may be lighted on both sides. Any illumination provided for signs shall conform to the requirements of Section 12.3.4 above.

#### **12.7.4 Boston Road Business Corridor Enhancement Signs**

- A.** Boston Road Business Corridor Enhancement Signs may be erected and maintained in the General Business (G.B.) District and Industrial-Professional Office Park -General Business District (I-POP-G.B.) District by Special Permit from the Planning Board.
- B.** The application for the Special Permit must contain a plan of proposed sign locations, sign design, pole design and placement.
- C.** The sign permit application shall contain proof of easement rights for the pole sign and maintenance access.
- D.** The placement of poles and signs are to be done without obstructing views or creating safety hazards.

### **12.8 ADULT CARE FACILITIES (ACF) DISTRICT**

The Planning Board, acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, shall approve the size, design and location of signs within the Adult Care Facilities District in accordance with the following provisions.

- 12.8.1** There may be not more than (1) freestanding sign at the main entrance to the development site for the purpose of identifying the adult care facilities located within the district as well as such other directional and informational signs as may be deemed necessary within the development.
- 12.8.2** The Planning Board may require a Sign Master Plan in accordance with Section 12.11 if multiple buildings are to be located together in a development on the same lot, or if two (2) or more developments on contiguous lots are to share a common entrance way.

### **12.9 ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR SPECIFIC SIGN TYPES**

#### **12.9.1 Canopy Signs**

- A.** Canopy Signs are allowed where business wall signs are permitted. The Canopy Sign area shall be considered as part of the wall sign area calculation
- B.** Canopy signs may be located only on the first floor level.
- C.** The Canopy Sign area shall not exceed 25 percent of the total surface of the canopy.

- D. The Canopy shall be restricted to a maximum of two colors - background color with letters and related graphics in a contrasting color.
- E. Canopy signs may be illuminated.

**12.9.2 Special Event Signs**

- A. A sign permit is required from the Building Inspector and will indicate the duration of the special event and will stipulate timing for erection and removal of the Special Event Sign which shall not exceed thirty (30) consecutive days.
- B. Special Event Signs may not exceed 20 square feet in area.
- C. Pennants, Movable signs, balloons and other inflatable items are not permitted as a Special Event Sign.
- D. No part of a Special Event Sign can be higher than the roof line at the eaves of the adjacent building on the lot or twenty (20) feet, whichever is less.
- E. A maximum of two Special Event Signs are permitted per lot at any one time.
- F. A Special Event Sign which becomes unsightly or flaps or makes noise for any reason shall be promptly removed or replaced.

**12.9.3 Directory Signs**

- A. Directory Signs may be free standing or affixed to building and are not intended to replace other permitted signage. Directory signs shall be treated separately and shall not be counted against the aggregate allowed sign area specified elsewhere herein.
- B. Directory Signs shall not exceed six (6) feet in height and twenty-four (24) square feet in sign area.
- C. A sign permit is required prior to erection of signs. The permit application must contain a design of sign, size and lighting proposed. Prior to the approval of this permit the Building Inspector will review the application with the Planning Board.

**12.9.4\* Menu Board Signs**

- A. Menu Board signs may be free standing or affixed to the building and are not intended to replace other permitted signage. Menu Board signs shall be treated separately and shall not be counted against the aggregate allowed sign area specified elsewhere herein.
- B. Only one Menu Board Sign may be erected on the premises of a food service establishment.

- C. Menu Board signs shall not exceed six (6) feet in height and thirty (30) square feet in area.
- D. The design, size, location and lighting of the Menu Board sign must be approved by the Planning Board.

## **12.10 OFF-PREMISES SIGNS**

### **12.10.1 Street Banner Signs**

A Banner Sign may be placed above or across a public way with the written permission of the Board of Selectmen upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall determine.

### **12.10.2 Identification Signs on Town Property**

An Identification Sign may be erected and maintained on Town owned land in any district with the written permission of the Board of Selectmen upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall determine.

### **12.10.3\* Identification Signs on Private Property**

An Identification Sign may be erected and maintained on private property in any district by Special Permit from the Planning Board where the Planning Board finds such sign will serve the public convenience, will not endanger the public safety, and will be of such size, location and design as will not be detrimental to the neighborhood.

- A. The size and design of the sign shall:
  - 1. Not exceed thirty-six (36) inches in total width;
  - 2. Not exceed twenty-four (24) inches in total height;
  - 3. Not exceed seven (7) feet in entire height if placed on a single pole;
  - 4. Not exceed forty-two (42) inches in entire height if placed closed to the ground on double poles;
  - 5. Shall be set back ten (10) feet from the edge of the travelled way;
  - 6. Shall be consistent with the character of the surrounding area.
- B. Identification signs can be lighted. Hours and type of lighting will be part of the special permit process.
- C. The application for the special permit shall be accompanied by the following:
  - 1. A plot plan showing sign location
  - 2. Design plans and sizes
  - 3. Lighting plans

4. Written permission from the landowner of property where sign is to be located
5. A petition signed by a majority of the businesses who would benefit from such an identification sign, who have agreed on the name to be designated on the sign, and who agree to maintain the sign in proper order. The petition shall be on file with the Town Clerk prior to the public hearing for the Special Permit.

## **12.11 SIGN MASTER PLAN**

Where groups of three (3) or more commercial or industrial units are to be located together in a development on the same lot, or where two (2) or more individual businesses on contiguous lots so elect to be considered together as a planned development, the Planning Board may waive certain restrictions of these Sign Regulations and approve by special permit a Sign Master Plan to govern signage in the planned development. The intent of this section is to promote a uniform and aesthetic message presentation that is designed to provide information to the general public through its design and coordination of elements.

- 12.11.1 Signs shall be designed to be compatible with the surrounding and appropriate to the architectural character of the building on which they are placed. Sign panels and graphics should relate with and not cover architectural features, and should be in proportion to them.
- 12.11.2 Signs should be appropriate to the types of activities they represent.
- 12.11.3 The layout of signs should be orderly and graphics should be of simple shape, such as rectangle, circle or oval.
- 12.11.4 The number of colors used should be the minimum consistent with the design and must provide a reference or relationship to the enterprise or activity being advertised.
- 12.11.5 Illumination should be appropriate to the character of the sign and surrounding and shall bear a relationship to the operating hours of the enterprise or activity being advertised.
- 12.11.6 Groups of related signs shall express uniformity, create a harmonious appearance, and provide a visual and aesthetic coordination of the information presented to the public.
- 12.11.7 Height and physical placement shall be consistent throughout the master planned area.
- 12.11.8 The Sign Master Plan, including a site plan, shall be approved by the Planning Board, at a public hearing, and shall detail placement, design, color coordination, visibility, information messages and compatibility with the general design of the development.

**12.11.9** Directory Signs for the convenience of the general public and for the purpose of directing persons to a business, activity, service or community facility operating within the Town of Wilbraham may be erected as part of the Sign Master Plan.

## **12.12 NON-CONFORMING SIGNS**

### **12.12.1 Continuance.**

A non-conforming sign lawfully existing at the time of adoption or subsequent amendment to this section may continue, although such sign does not conform to the provisions of this section.

### **12.12.2 Maintenance.**

Any lawfully existing sign cannot be enlarged, reworded (other than in the case of cinema or theater signs, or signs with automatically changing messages), redesigned or altered in any way including repainting in a different color, except to conform to the requirements of this section. Any sign which has deteriorated to such an extent that the cost of restoration would exceed 35 per cent of the replacement cost shall not be repaired, rebuilt or altered except to conform to the requirements of this section.

### **12.12.3 Replacement.**

Any sign replacing a non-conforming sign shall conform with the provisions of this section, and the non-conforming sign shall no longer be displayed.

## **SECTION 13 LAND USE REVIEW PROCEDURES**

<b>SECTION 13.1</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>
<b>SECTION 13.2</b>	<b>PRE-APPLICATION REVIEW</b>
<b>SECTION 13.3</b>	<b>SITE PLAN REQUIREMENTS</b>
<b>SECTION 13.4</b>	<b>SITE PLAN REVIEW DESIGN GUIDELINES/CRITERIA</b>
<b>SECTION 13.5</b>	<b>SITE PLAN APPROVAL</b>
<b>SECTION 13.6</b>	<b>SPECIAL PERMITS</b>

### **13.1 GENERAL**

No application shall be filed for a building permit for the construction, exterior alteration, relocation, or change in any use requiring either site plan approval or a special permit as set forth in section 3.4 or any other applicable section of this By-Law until the provisions of this section have been fulfilled and a site plan approved by the appropriate authority as set forth herein.

### **13.2 PRE-APPLICATION REVIEW**

Prior to the formal filing of an application for site plan approval or a special permit, applicants are strongly encouraged to schedule a conference with the Planning Board or its representative to informally discuss the application and jointly cooperate in developing a site plan that will conform with the requirements of this Zoning By-Law and the established planning goals of the Town.

### **13.3 SITE PLAN REQUIREMENTS**

Unless waived because of the scale or character of the development, site plans shall be prepared by a registered professional engineer, architect, landscape architect and/or land surveyor, and shall show, as a minimum:

- 13.3.1** The name and address of the project, date, north arrow, and graphic scale;
- 13.3.2** The name and address of the owner of record, developer, and seal of the engineer, architect, landscape architect and/or land surveyor;
- 13.3.3** The location and boundaries of the lot, easements, adjacent streets, ways, or other matters of record,
- 13.3.4** The location and names of owners of all adjacent properties within three hundred (300) feet of the property line;
- 13.3.5** Existing and proposed topography at two foot contour interval including the location of wetlands, streams, water bodies, drainage swales, areas subject to flooding, and unique natural land features;
- 13.3.6** Existing and proposed buildings or structures, including dimensions, elevations, all exterior entrances/exits, and the approximate locations of existing buildings located on adjoining property within fifty (50) feet of the development site;

- 13.3.7 The location of parking and loading areas, driveways, walkways, access and egress points;
- 13.3.8 The location and description of all existing and proposed utilities, sewage disposal systems including percolation tests where necessary, water supply systems, surface water drainage systems, refuse and other waste disposal methods;
- 13.3.9 The location, dimensions, height and characteristics of proposed signs;
- 13.3.10 The location type and intensity of proposed and existing lighting;
- 13.3.11 Proposed landscaping features including the location and description of buffers, screening, fencing and plantings, including the size and type of plant materials;
- 13.3.12 Location and type of monumentation at property corners;
- 13.3.13 Zoning district boundaries, lot area, frontage, setbacks, and other zoning requirements;

#### **13.4 SITE PLAN DESIGN GUIDELINES/REVIEW CRITERIA**

The following guidelines and criteria shall be considered in the review and evaluation of the site plan, consistent with a reasonable use of the site for the purposes permitted by the regulations of the district in which the site is located:

##### **13.4.1 Preservation of the Landscape**

13.4.1.1 The landscape shall be preserved in its natural state insofar as practicable by minimizing tree, soil, and vegetation removal; minimizing the use of wetlands, steep slopes, hilltops and floodplains;

13.4.1.2 Special care shall be taken to preserve unique or important natural, historic or scenic features.

##### **13.4.2 Relation of Buildings to Environment**

Proposed development shall be related harmoniously to the terrain and to the use, scale, and proportions of existing and proposed buildings in the vicinity that have functional or visual relationship to the proposed buildings.

##### **13.4.3 Interrelationship of Buildings**

If more than one building is proposed, the buildings shall be related harmoniously to each other with adequate light, air, circulation, privacy, and separation between buildings.

##### **13.4.4 Vehicular and Pedestrian Circulation**

13.4.4.1 The site shall be designed to provide for the convenience and safety of vehicular and pedestrian movement both within the site and in relation to adjoining ways and properties.

- 13.4.4.2** The location and number of cuts shall be such to minimize turning movements and hazardous exits and entrances.
- 13.4.4.3** The location and design of parking spaces, drive aisles, loading areas and sidewalks shall be provided in a safe and convenient manner.
- 13.4.4.4** Provision for access to adjoining properties shall be provided as appropriate.
- 13.4.4.5** Where possible and practicable, driveways located in commercial and business districts shall be located opposite each other.
- 13.4.4.6** Joint access driveways between adjoining driveways shall be encouraged subject to Planning Board approval.

**13.4.5 Surface Water Drainage**

- 13.4.5.1** The proposed drainage system within and adjacent to the site shall be adequate to handle the increased runoff resulting from the development.
- 13.4.5.2** Special attention shall be given to proper discharge of surface water drainage so that removal of surface waters will not adversely affect neighboring properties, streams, wetlands or the public storm drainage system.
- 13.4.5.3** Surface water in all paved areas shall be collected at intervals so that it will not obstruct the flow of vehicular or pedestrian traffic, and will not create puddles in the paved areas.

**13.4.6 Utility Service**

- 13.4.6.1** The proposed water supply system and methods of sanitary sewage disposal and solid waste disposal to and from all buildings shall be indicated and adequate to serve the proposed use.
- 13.4.6.2** The development shall not place excessive demands on Town services or infrastructure.
- 13.4.6.3** Electric, telephone, cable television and other such lines and equipment shall be underground where practical and environmentally feasible.

**13.4.7 Signs**

The size, location, design, color, texture, lighting and materials of all signs shall not detract from the use and enjoyment of proposed buildings and structures and the surrounding properties.

### **13.4.8 Screening and Landscaping.**

**13.4.8.1** Landscaped buffer strips shall be provided where required by this By-Law and shall conform to the requirements of Section 10.2 to shield the business and light industrial uses of land from any adjoining residential property.

**13.4.8.2** Exposed storage areas, exposed machinery installations, service areas, truck loading areas, utility buildings and structures and similar accessory areas and structures shall be subject to such setbacks, screen plantings or other screening methods as shall reasonably be required to prevent their being incongruous with the existing or contemplated environment and the surrounding properties.

**13.4.8.3** The intrusion of lighting, including parking lot and building exterior lighting, onto adjacent properties shall be minimized, through the use of light shields, lowered height of light poles, screening or similar solutions.

### **13.4.9 Compliance with the By-Law.**

The Site Plan shall comply with all zoning requirements established for signage, parking, loading, dimensions (lot size, yard, frontage, height, building coverage, etc.), commercial and industrial performance standards, and all other provisions of this By-Law.

## **13.5 SITE PLAN APPROVAL**

Site plan approval is hereby enacted to further accomplish the purposes set forth in Section 1.1 of this By-Law by providing for a review of plans for uses and structures, which although permitted by right, may still have significant impacts on pedestrian and vehicular traffic, public services and utilities, and environmental quality. The purpose of site plan approval is to ensure that the design and layout of new development complies with the purpose and intent of this By-Law and does not result in a detriment to the neighborhood, community or environment.

### **13.5.1 Applicability**

No building permit application shall be filed or granted for the construction, exterior alteration, relocation, or change in any use requiring site plan approval from the Planning Board as set forth in Section 3.4, until the provisions of this section have been fulfilled and an application for site plan approval approved by the Planning Board.

**13.5.1.1** The Planning Board shall adopt, and may periodically amend by majority vote, after a public hearing, Rules and Regulations relating to the procedures and administration of site plan approval not inconsistent

with the provisions of this By-Law or Chapter 40A of the General Laws, and shall file a copy of said Rules and Regulations with the Town Clerk.

**13.5.1.2** The Planning Board may waive any or all of the requirements for site plan approval it judges to be unnecessary to the review of a particular plan.

**13.5.1.3** No Site Plan Approval shall be required in those instances where a lawful use change is proposed and no physical changes (other than signs) will occur to the site or building exterior and where no new or additional requirements of the Zoning By-Law must be met for the proposed use.

### **13.5.2 Application**

Each application for site plan approval shall be submitted on the proper form to the Planning Board by the current owner of record, accompanied by all fees and any additional information as may be required, including a site plan conforming to the requirements set forth in Section 13.3.

**13.5.2.1** The dimensions, scale, form, contents, and style of plans, fee schedule, and other information required as part of an application for a site plan approval shall be subject to such Rules and Regulations as may from time to time be promulgated by the Planning Board.

**13.5.2.2** Misrepresentation of any of the required site plan items shall be cause to revoke site plan approval.

### **13.5.3 Review Procedure**

**13.5.3.1** The Planning Board shall transmit copies of the application and site plan to appropriate Town Boards, Committees and Departments which may include: the Town Engineer, Building Inspector, Fire Chief, Police Chief, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Board of Water Commissioners, Sanitary Sewer Commission and others as necessary. These Boards and departments shall have thirty-five (35) days to report in writing their findings and recommendations to the Planning Board. Failure to so report in the allotted time shall constitute approval by that Board or Department of the application submitted.

**13.5.3.2** After giving proper legal notice, the Planning Board shall hold a public hearing within sixty-five (65) days of the receipt of application and after due consideration shall take final action within ninety (90) days from the time of the hearing.

#### **13.5.4 Decision of the Planning Board**

The Planning Board shall render a decision within ninety (90) days of the public hearing and shall file its written decision with the Town Clerk's office and other appropriate parties in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 40A. The concurring vote of a simple majority of the Board shall be required for any decision on a site plan application. The Board's written decision shall consist of either:

**13.5.4.1** Approval of the site plan based on a determination that the proposed project meets the requirements of this section.

**13.5.4.2** Denial of the site plan based on a determination that either:

**A.** Insufficient information was submitted with the application in order for the Board to adequately review the proposal; or

**B.** A determination that the project does not meet the requirements of this section.

**13.5.4.3** Approval of the site plan subject to conditions, modifications and reasonable restrictions necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section. Such conditions may include the following:

**A.** Controls on the location and type of access to the site.

**B.** Requirements to reduce the traffic impact of the proposed development.

**C.** Requirements to minimize impacts on the capacities of infrastructure serving the site, but not limited to water, sewer, storm drains and siteways.

**D.** Requirements to minimize any environmental degradation during construction.

**E.** Other conditions designed to ensure compliance with the criteria and guidelines of section 13.8.

#### **13.5.5 Performance Security**

For the purpose of securing the performance of all proposed work, the Board may require performance security in an amount determined by the Board to be sufficient to cover the cost of any part or all of the required improvements.

#### **13.5.6 Expiration**

Any site plan approved under this section shall expire in two (2) years if substantial and continuous construction has not begun by such date.

### **13.5.7 Appeal**

Decisions of the Planning Board regarding site plan approval may be appealed as set forth in M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Section 17.

### **13.5.8 Changes, Alterations, Expansion**

Once approved, Site Plans may be modified with the approval of the Planning Board, which shall hold a hearing with appropriate notice, unless it deems such modification to be of a minor nature.

### **13.5.9 Violations**

Violations of the approved site plan or conditions of approval shall be subject to section 15.3 of this By-Law.

## **13.6 SPECIAL PERMITS**

Special permits are intended to provide detailed review of certain uses and structures which may have substantial impact upon abutters, traffic, utility systems, the character of the Town, and public services. The special permit review process is intended to ensure a harmonious relationship between proposed development and its surroundings, and ensure that proposals are consistent with the purpose and intent of this By-Law.

### **13.6.1 Applicability**

No building permit application shall be filed or granted for the construction, exterior alteration, relocation, or change in use for any use requiring a special permit as set forth in Section 3.3 or any other applicable section of this By-Law until the provisions of this section have been fulfilled and an application for a special permit approved by the appropriate Special Permit Granting Authority.

### **13.6.2 Special Permit Granting Authorities**

**13.6.2.1** The Special Permit Granting Authority shall be either the Planning Board, the Board of Appeals, or the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Wilbraham as specified herein.

**13.6.2.2** Special permits shall be issued by the Special Permit Granting Authority according to the provisions of Section 9, Chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws.

**13.6.2.3** The Special Permit Granting Authority shall adopt, and may periodically amend, after a public hearing, Rules and Regulations relating to the procedures and administration of special permits not inconsistent with the provisions of this By-Law or Chapter 40A of the General Laws, and shall file a copy of said Rules and Regulations with the Town Clerk.

### **13.6.3 Application**

The applicant for a Special Permit shall submit to the Special Permit Granting Authority an application on the prescribed form accompanied by all required fees and other pertinent data, including a site plan conforming to the requirements set forth in Section 13.3.

**13.6.3.1** The dimensions, scale, form, contents, and style of plans, fee schedule, and other information required as part of an application for a special permit shall be subject to such Rules and Regulations as may from time to time be promulgated by the Special Permit Granting Authority.

**13.6.3.2** Misrepresentation of any of the required site plan items shall be cause to revoke a special permit.

### **13.6.4 Review**

**13.6.4.1** Upon receipt of an application for a special permit, the Special Permit Granting Authority shall transmit copies thereof to the Building Inspector, Planning Administrator, and Planning Board, and may at its discretion, transmit copies to the Town Engineer, Fire Chief, Police Chief, Board of Health, Conservation Commission, Board of Water Commissioners, Sanitary Sewer Commission and such other boards, departments or committees as it may deem necessary and appropriate for their written reports. Any such board or agency to which applications are referred shall respond with written recommendations to the Special Permit Granting Authority as they deem appropriate.

**13.6.4.2** Special permits shall only be issued after a public hearing held by the Special Permit Granting Authority. The public hearing must be held within sixty-five (65) days after the effective date of filing of a special permit application.

**13.6.4.3** Prior to a public hearing on such application held by the Zoning Board of Appeals acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, the Planning Board shall make a report with recommendations to the Board of Appeals which report shall cover:

- A.** The relationship of the proposal to the Master Plan of Development of the Town;
- B.** The adequacy of the provisions to protect and preserve the character of the neighborhood; and

C. The conformance of the site plan to the general provisions of this By-Law and the specific design standards set forth in section 13.4.

**13.6.4.4** The Special Permit Granting Authority shall take final action on an application within ninety (90) days following the public hearing. Failure to do so shall constitute approval.

**13.6.5 Required Findings**

Where a special permit may be authorized by the Special Permit Granting Authority under this By-Law, said Authority may grant, upon written application, such special permit if it finds, when applicable, that:

**13.6.5.1** The proposed use is in harmony with the general purpose and intent of this By-Law;

**13.6.5.2** The proposed use is suitably located in the neighborhood in which it is proposed and/or the entire Town;

**13.6.5.3** The proposed use is reasonably compatible with the character and scale of other uses permitted in the same district;

**13.6.5.4** The proposed use will not constitute a nuisance due to air and water pollution, excessive noise, dust, vibration, lights, or visually offensive structures and accessories;

**13.6.5.5** The proposed use provides convenient and safe vehicular and pedestrian movement within the site in relation to adjacent streets, property or improvements, and will not create a significant traffic hazard or result in excessive traffic congestion;

**13.6.5.6** Adequate and appropriate facilities will be provided for the proper operation of the proposed use;

**13.6.5.7** The proposal will be in conformance with the sign regulations of Section 12;

**13.6.5.8** The proposal conforms to the off-street parking and loading requirements of Section 11 and provides adequate space for off-street parking and unloading of vehicles;

**13.6.5.9** The design of the project provides for adequate methods of disposal and/or storage of sewage, refuse and other wastes generated by the proposed uses on the site;

**13.6.5.10** The design of the project provides for adequate surface water drainage and the proposed use will not

create a significant adverse impact to the quality of surface water or groundwater during or after construction;

- 13.6.5.11** The proposed use complies with all other additional special permit criteria or zoning requirements imposed on the use by other sections of this By-Law.

### **13.6.6 Granting Of Special Permits**

**13.6.6.1** The granting of special permits shall be completely discretionary with the Special Permit Granting Authority.

- A.** The Board of Appeals or Board of Selectmen, when acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, shall, in order to render a favorable decision, have three (3) of the three (3) members voting affirmatively.
- B.** The Planning Board, when acting as the Special Permit Granting Authority, shall, in order to render a favorable decision, have four (4) of the five (5) members voting affirmatively.

**13.6.6.2** No special permit shall authorize a use expressly prohibited by this Zoning By-Law.

### **13.6.7 Conditions, Safeguards and Limitations**

In granting a special permit, the special permit granting authority may impose conditions, safeguards, and limitations which shall be in writing and may include but are not limited to the following:

- 13.6.7.1** Setback, side and rear yards greater than the minimum required in this By-Law.
- 13.6.7.2** Limitations of size, number of occupants, method or time of operation or extent of facilities.
- 13.6.7.3** Additional parking, loading or traffic requirements beyond the minimum required in the By-Law.
- 13.6.7.4** Measures to protect against environmental pollution.
- 13.6.7.5** Performance security to ensure that the project meets the conditions specified in the special permit.
- 13.6.7.6** Screening of parking areas or other parts of the premises from adjoining properties or from streets by the use of walls, fences, plantings, earthen berms or other such devices.

### **13.6.8 Expiration**

A special permit issued pursuant to Section 13.6.6 shall lapse if substantial and continuous usage or construction has not commenced within two (2) years. The two (2) year period during

which the special permit is valid shall not commence until the final decision has been rendered in the event of any appeal from the issuance of said special permits.

**13.6.9\* Modification, Amendment or Renewal**

Building permits shall be issued only in strict conformance with the terms and conditions of the special permit approved and endorsed by the Special Permit Granting Authority. No changes to the approved site plan shall be made during construction or operation without prior approval of the Special Permit Granting Authority.

The Special Permit Granting Authority shall have the authority to modify, amend or renew the terms and conditions of special permit approval upon written application of the owner, lessee, or mortgagee of the premises, or upon the Special Permit Granting Authority's own motion; provided, however, that such action is consistent with the purposes and intent of this Bylaw.

Special Permits may be amended with the approval of a supermajority of the Special Permit Granting Authority which shall hold a public hearing with appropriate notice unless it deems such modification to be of a minor nature and therefore does not require an amendment to the special permit.

**13.6.10\* Enforcement**

Violations of the conditions of special permit approval shall be subject to enforcement action as provided in section 15.3 of this By-Law.

## **SECTION 15            ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

<b>SECTION 15.1</b>	<b>ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY</b>
<b>SECTION 15.2</b>	<b>PLANS AND PERMITS</b>
<b>SECTION 15.3</b>	<b>PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION</b>
<b>SECTION 15.4</b>	<b>PLANNING BOARD</b>
<b>SECTION 15.5</b>	<b>BOARD OF APPEALS</b>
<b>SECTION 15.6</b>	<b>AMENDMENT</b>
<b>SECTION 15.7</b>	<b>REPETITIVE PETITIONS BEFORE TOWN MEETINGS</b>
<b>SECTION 15.8</b>	<b>REPETITIVE PETITIONS BEFORE BOARD OF APPEALS</b>
<b>SECTION 15.9</b>	<b>REPEAL</b>
<b>SECTION 15.10</b>	<b>VALIDITY</b>

### **15.1    ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY**

- 15.1.1**    This By-Law shall be enforced by the Building Inspector who shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen.
- 15.1.2**    The Building Inspector shall approve no applications for permits required under this By-Law for a building or structure of any kind for which plans and specifications and intended use are not in all respects in conformity with this By-Law. Where site plan approval from the Planning Board or a special permit from the Special Permit Granting Authority is required pursuant to the provisions of this By-Law, the Building Inspector shall issue no permit except in accordance with the written decision of said Board.
- 15.1.3**    The Building Inspector shall have full authority to prosecute in any court of competent jurisdiction any action, suit or proceeding for the enforcement of this By-Law and the Building Inspector shall have all powers vested by M.G.L. Chapter 40A relative to the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

### **15.2    PLANS AND PERMITS**

- 15.2.1**    No tent, no foundation, no building, and no structure shall be erected or substantially altered without a building permit issued by the Building Inspector. A record of such applications and the survey and plans herein referred to and action taken thereon shall be kept on file in the Town Office by the Building Inspector.
- 15.2.2**    No building permit shall be issued until the following requirements are met:
  - A.**    A survey of the lot, in duplicate, drawn by a registered land surveyor to scale showing the dimensions of the lot and location and size of buildings or structures existing on the lot.
  - B.**    Duplicate plans of the proposed buildings or structures with sufficient detail to show conformity to the By-Law.
  - C.**    All corners of the lot marked with iron pins, or stone bounds.

- D. Approved percolation test under Board of Health Rules and Regulations.
- E. The above requirements may be modified or waived where in the judgment of the Building Inspector they are not applicable to the work proposed and where it is clearly demonstrated, through deeds, surveys, documents or other supporting information, that they are not necessary to establish compliance with the Zoning By-Law.
- F. A building permit which involves construction shall be valid for a period of six (6) months from date of issuance. If construction is not commenced and being carried out in a continuous and expeditious manner, at the end of said six (6) month period the permit shall expire. If the permit lapses and a new permit is issued on substantially the same plans, the Building Inspector may waive the building permit fee for that second submission.

**15.2.3** No newly erected or altered structure for which a building permit is required under this By-Law shall be occupied or used without an occupancy permit, which permit shall be applied for in writing to the Building Inspector before the building is occupied. It shall be signed by the Building Inspector, and shall be issued when the building and its uses and accessory uses comply in all respects with this By-Law. Any building not described as a residence or dwelling in the application for building permit, and any building not built as a dwelling prior to the adoption of this By-Law, may not hereafter be used for living purposes without an occupancy permit.

### **15.3 PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION**

All persons who violate this Zoning By-Law shall be subject to fines imposed pursuant to the following rules and specifications.

**15.3.1** For each violation of the Zoning By-Law, a fine shall be imposed subject to the following rules and specifications:

- A.\* Violators shall include the owners and/or occupants of the property and their agents who have taken any part in the creation or installation of any structure, sign or use which violates the Zoning By-Law.
- B. Fines shall be assessed separately against those owners and/or occupants of the property and their agents who are responsible for the creation or continuance of the violation for which said fine or fines are being assessed.
- C. Prior to the imposition of any fine, written notice of the nature of the violation shall be given to the person or persons against whom the fine is to be imposed. Said notice shall state the first date upon which a fine shall be imposed for a continuing violation of this By-Law, which date shall not be

less than seven (7) days from receipt of said notice and which shall also contain reference to each specific Section of the By-Law which is being violated together with a statement of the penalty for said violation.

- D. Unless otherwise provided in the By-Law, the penalty for each offense shall be one hundred (100) dollars. Each day that a violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense. Each separate violation of any Section of the By-Law, as listed in said notice, shall also constitute a separate offense.

**15.3.2** In addition to the procedures for enforcement as described above, the provisions of this By-Law, the conditions of a permit granted under this By-Law or any decision rendered by the Zoning Board of Appeals or Planning Board under this By-Law, may be enforced by the Building Inspector by non-criminal complaint pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 21D of the Massachusetts General Laws. The fine for any violation disposed of through this procedure shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each offense. Each day such violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

## **15.4 PLANNING BOARD**

**15.4.1** There shall be a Planning Board consisting of five (5) members, one of whom shall be elected each year for a term of five (5) years.

**15.4.2** There may also be appointed one (1) associate member authorized to serve as an alternate voting member on special permit applications.

**15.4.2.1** The associate member shall be appointed by the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 41, Section 81-A of the General Laws of the Commonwealth.

**15.4.2.2** The associate member shall be appointed for a one (1) year term, or, in the case of an unexpired term, for the balance of said term. The associate member shall be reappointed or replaced as provided for in Section 15.4.2.1.

**15.4.2.3** Associate members shall serve on the Board only as alternate voting members on special permit applications in the case of absence, inability to act, or conflict of interest on the part of a regular Board member, or in the event of a vacancy on the Board.

**15.4.2.4** The Planning Board Chair shall authorize the associate member to sit on the board when necessary and in accordance with the above circumstances.

## **15.5 BOARD OF APPEALS**

### **15.5.1 Establishment**

There shall be a Board of Appeals consisting of three (3) members appointed for terms of such length and so arranged that the term of one appointee shall expire each year. There shall also be appointed two (2) associate members for a term of three years. No person holding an elective town office shall be eligible to serve as a member or associate member of the Board of Appeals.

### **15.5.2 Powers and Duties**

**15.5.2.1** To hear and decide applications for special permits upon which the Board is empowered to act by this By-Law.

**15.5.2.2** To hear and decide petitions for variances from the terms of this By-Law with respect to particular land or structures, but not to include variances for use. Such variance shall be granted only in cases where the Board of appeals finds all of the following:

- A.** A literal enforcement of the provisions of this By-Law would involve a substantial hardship, financial or otherwise, to the petitioner.
- B.** The hardship is owing to circumstances relating to the soil conditions, shape or topography of such land or structure and especially affecting such land or structures but not affecting generally the zoning district in which it is located.
- C.** Desirable relief may be granted without substantial detriment to the public good.
- D.** Desirable relief may be granted without nullifying or substantially derogating from the intent or purpose of this chapter.

**15.5.2.3** To hear and decide appeals from:

- A.** Any person aggrieved by reason of that person's inability to obtain a permit or enforcement action from any administrative officer under the provisions of Chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws; or
- B.** The Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission; or
- C.** Any person including an officer or board of the Town of Wilbraham or of any abutting city or town, if aggrieved by any order or decision of the Building Inspector or other administrative official,

in violation of any provision of Chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws or this By-Law as adopted thereunder.

**15.5.2.4** To issue comprehensive permits as authorized by Chapter 40B, Sections 20 - 23, of the Massachusetts General Laws.

**15.5.2.5** To issue building permits withheld by the Building Inspector under Chapter 41, Section 81Y of the Massachusetts General Laws.

**15.6\* AMENDMENT**

This Zoning By-Law may be amended from time to time at an Annual or Special Town Meeting in accordance with the provisions of Section 5 of Chapter 40A of the General Laws, as amended.

A proposed amendment to the By-Law may be initiated by the Board of Selectmen, the Planning Board, the Board of Appeals, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, individuals owning land to be affected by the amendment, or registered voters of the Town pursuant to Section 10 of Chapter 39 of the General Laws.

The Planning Board, after giving proper legal notice, shall hold a public hearing for the consideration of any amendment to this By-Law, and shall report to town meeting its recommendations as to what action should be taken. Petitioners seeking to amend the Zoning By-Law may be charged reasonable fees sufficient to cover the administrative costs of holding the public hearing as may be established under the Rules and Regulations of the Planning Board.

**15.7 REPETITIVE PETITIONS BEFORE TOWN MEETINGS**

No proposed by-law making a change in this zoning by-law which has not been favorably acted upon by the Town Meeting shall be considered on its merits by the Town Meeting within two (2) years after the date of such action unless adoption of such proposed by-law is recommended in the final report of the Planning Board, as required by the General Laws.

**15.8 REPETITIVE PETITIONS BEFORE BOARD OF APPEALS**

No appeal or petition for a variance from the terms of this By-Law with respect to a particular parcel of land, and no application for a special exception to the terms of this By-Law, which has been unfavorably acted upon by the Board of Appeals shall be considered on its merits by said Board within two (2) years after the date of such unfavorable action except with the consent of all the members of the Planning Board.

**15.9 REPEAL**

Any existing By-law or any parts thereof inconsistent with this By-Law are hereby repealed.

## **15.10 VALIDITY**

The invalidity of any section or provision of the by-law shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **RULES RELATIVE TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PERMITS**

#### **RULES & REGULATIONS FOR THE PLANNING BOARD ACTING AS THE SPECIAL PERMIT GRANTING AUTHORITY (SPGA)**

##### **Adopted under the provisions of Chapter 40A, Section 9, M.G.L.**

- A.** A request for a special permit for a use or activity requiring such permit from this Board under the Zoning By-Laws of the Town of Wilbraham shall include the following:
  - 1.** An application on an approved form with a copy filed with the Town Clerk;
  - 2.** A fee of one hundred dollars (\$100) to cover the cost of the public hearing expenses;
  - 3.** Ten (10) copies of plans and specifications;
  - 4.** Copies of all documentation required by either the Zoning By-Laws or the Rules & Regulations Governing Subdivision of Land of this Board.
- B.** An application will not be accepted until all of the information required by Statute, Zoning By-Laws or Subdivision Rules & Regulations is on file in the Board Office.
- C.** The Board will schedule a public hearing at the earliest possible date, but no later than 65 days after filing of the application depending on the availability of needed information and response from other interested boards and agencies, and publication time as required by Chapter 40A, Section 11.
- D.** The notice of the public hearing shall include:
  - 1.** Name of the applicant;
  - 2.** Location of the area or premises including a street address;
  - 3.** Subject matter of the hearing;
  - 4.** Date, time and place of hearing.
- E.** Notice of the public hearing shall be:
  - 1.** Published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town once in each of two successive weeks, the first publication of which shall not be less than 14 days before the day of the hearing;
  - 2.** Posted on the Bulletin Board in the Town Office for a period of not less than 14 days before the day of the hearing;
  - 3.** Mailed to "Parties in Interest" which shall include: the applicant, abutters, owners of land directly opposite on any public or private street or way, the owners of land within 300 feet of the property lines, and the Planning Boards of every abutting city or town. (The Assessors shall certify the names and addresses of "Parties in Interest"); and
  - 4.** Mailed to other interested individuals, boards or agencies as deemed advisable by this Board.
- F.** If this Board has requested a review of special permit applications by other boards or agencies, these boards or agencies shall make their recommendations, if any comments are desired, by submittal in writing to the Board within thirty-five (35) days after receipt of the application by them.

**G.** Within ninety (90) days following the date of the public hearing, the SPGA shall take final action. If this Board fails to take final action within the ninety (90) day limit, the special permit shall be deemed granted.

NOTE: The issuance of a special permit requires a vote of at least four (4) members of a five (5) member board.

**H.** Before granting a special permit, this Board shall find that the proposed use or activity is in compliance with all provisions and requirements of the Zoning By-Laws, and in harmony with its general purpose and intent.

**I.** Special permits may be issued subject to such conditions, safeguards, or limitations on time or use as the Board may impose for the protection of neighboring uses or otherwise serving the purposes of the By-Laws. Such conditions, safeguards and limitations shall be imposed in writing.

**J.** This Board will keep a detailed record of its proceedings, which record will indicate:

1. Vote of each member upon each questions, including whether the member was absent or failed to vote;
2. Reason or reasons for Board's decision; and
3. Official action taken.

**K.** Upon the granting of a special permit, this Board shall:

1. File a copy of the decision with the record of its proceedings and plans with the Town Clerk;
2. Mail a certified copy of its decision to the owner and to the applicant, if other than the owner; and
3. Send a notice of the decision to the "Parties in Interest" and to persons who requested a notice at the public hearing.

**L.** A special permit shall not take effect until:

1. Town Clerk certifies on a copy of the Decision, issued by this Board to the owner, that twenty (20) days have elapsed without the filing of an appeal or that any appeal filed has been dismissed or denied; and
2. A certified copy of the Decision has been recorded at the owner's expense in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds, indexed in the grantor index under the name of the record owner, and noted on the owner's certificate of title.

**M.** If an application is unfavorably acted upon, the applicant may not reapply within 2 years except by:

1. First requesting the Board's consent to such action;
  - a. The Board, before voting on whether to give such consent, shall notify all "Parties of Interest" of the time and place when the question of such consent will be considered;
  - b. All but one of the Members of the Board must consent.
2. The Board may allow reapplication after making findings of specific material changes in the conditions upon which the unfavorable action was based, and must describe such changes in the record of its proceedings.

**N.** Any application for a special permit may be withdrawn without prejudice by the petitioner prior to the publication of the first public hearing notice. Once the notice has been published, a withdrawal without prejudice may only be with the approval of this Board.

**WILBRAHAM PLANNING BOARD  
ADOPTED: 6-25-80**



## **APPENDIX B**

### **WILBRAHAM BOARD OF HEALTH**

#### **REGULATIONS FOR SWIMMING POOLS**

Every owner of a swimming pool in the Town of Wilbraham other than natural pools, shall be required to provide an enclosure to prevent unauthorized persons and animals from entering the pool area. Minimum adequate enclosure is regulated by the Massachusetts State Building Code. Please consult with the Building Inspector's Office regarding specific regulations and requirements.

No swimming pool shall be constructed, installed, enlarged or altered unless a permit has been obtained from the Building Inspector. All pools over fifteen (15) feet in diameter and two (2) feet deep are required to obtain a building permit. All electrical installations to a swimming pool must have a permit granted by the Electrical Inspector.

All persons who do not comply with the above shall be in violation of the Zoning By-Law.

THE WILBRAHAM BOARD OF HEALTH

ADOPTED: SEPTEMBER 29, 1964

AMENDED: June 22, 1965

August 1, 1967

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#### **MINIMUM SETBACKS**

Front Yard, Side Yard, Rear Yard - Same as principal structure

10 Feet From House

10 Feet From Septic Tank

20 Feet From Leach Field

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**APPENDIX C**

**SCENIC ROAD DESIGNATION**

In order to preserve the qualities and character of the town's ways, the following are designated as Scenic Roads under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 15C, of the General Laws:

- Beebe Road**
- Bennett Road**
- Bolles Road**
- Branch Road**
- Burleigh Road**
- Chilson Road**
- Crane Hill Road**
- East Longmeadow Road**
- Faculty Street**
- Glendale Road**
- Hollow Road**
- Main Street**
- Maple Street**
- Maynard Road**
- Monson Road**
- Mountain Road**
- Ridge Road**
- Soule Road**
- Springfield Street** (from Main Street to Faculty Street)
- Stony Hill Road**
- Tinkham Road** (from Main Street to Bolles Road)

Article 36  
Annual Town Meeting of March 23, 1974  
Approved (100-62)

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**M.G.L. CHAPTER 40, SECTION 15C:**

Upon recommendation or request of the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, or Historical Commission of any city or town, such city or town may designate any road in said city or town, other than a numbered route or state highway, as a scenic road.

After a road has been designated as a scenic road any repair, maintenance, reconstruction, or paving work done with respect thereto shall not involve or include the cutting or removal of trees, or the tearing down or destruction of stone walls, or portions thereof, except with the prior written consent of the Planning Board after a public hearing duly advertised twice in a newspaper of general circulation in the area, as to time, date, place and purpose, the last publication to occur at least seven days prior to such hearing.

Designation of a road as a scenic road shall not affect the eligibility of a city or town to receive construction or reconstruction aid for such road pursuant to the provisions of Chapter  
Ninety.



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