For January 5, 2022

As Chair of the Amherst Planning Board, I find that:

- 1. the most recent information on the CDC website regarding the recent Omicron surges, including the increased transmissibility of the virus,
- 2. the rising and dangerous rates of Covid infections evident in the CDC's statistics,
- 3. the increased prevalence of infections even among vaccinated persons, and
- 4. the current case and hospitalization rates in New Hampshire generally and in Hillsborough County in particular,

constitute an emergency within the meaning of RSA 91-A:2 III (b).

I also find that immediate action by the Planning Board is imperative in order to satisfy statutory deadlines for actions on applications and for public hearings on proposed ordinance changes.

I also find that in light of the current state of the Covid pandemic, the physical presence of a quorum of the Planning Board is not reasonably practicable within the time period required to take action.

Accordingly, after consultation with members of the Board and Town Counsel, and pursuant to the authority granted by RSA 91-A:2 III (b), the Planning Board meeting on January 5, 2022, will be held via Zoom. Members of the public may, and are encouraged to, attend via Zoom using the information below. There will also be the opportunity for members of the public to attend at the Souhegan High School auditorium, with a connection to the Zoom meeting available there, if they wish.

The Zoom link is as follows: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81348800427</u> Or Telephone: Dial +1 312 626 6799 Webinar ID: 813 4880 0427

Please note that **all votes** that are taken during this meeting shall be done by **roll call vote**.