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**To:** Town Council Members <[towncouncil@amherstma.gov](mailto:towncouncil@amherstma.gov)>; Planning Department Email <[planning@amherstma.gov](mailto:planning@amherstma.gov)>; Brestrup, Christine <[brestrupc@amherstma.gov](mailto:brestrupc@amherstma.gov)>; Bockelman, Paul <[bockelmanp@amherstma.gov](mailto:bockelmanp@amherstma.gov)>

**Subject:** Opposition to Rezoning Dec 9, 2021

To the members of the Amherst Town Council:

My first memory of politics in the 1950's was President Truman and the Joseph McCarthy era. There sure were heated debates. Fast forward 60-70 years and here we are. It seems that one very small group of powerful people wants to rezone a historic residential district and build a garage, so much so, they conjured up misleading and erroneous information to achieve it. Can you imagine something as tedious as a garage, to risk ones reputation? They constantly talk of the need for this structure without any proof, only conjecture. They insist that it should be placed in one of the few remaining residential historic districts left in the Town of Amherst, rather than a commercial area.

What started out as a 3 level 120 space garage has turned into a possibly 58 foot tall structure with possibly two sublevels, and hundreds of parking spaces that will feed into North Prospect Street which is a very narrow residential street. One might say, an accident looking for a place to happen. The overwhelming response to the Town Council has been against rezoning, however, this didn't stop these stolid beings from trying to ram through this heinous action. Of course, when the people had a chance to speak through their votes, the two sponsors of the bill lost their re-election bid. However, do you think the standard bearers of this deplorable rezoning bill being considered by the Town Council learned from this? Naturally the correct course of events now should be to wait for the next Town Council in January.

Jay Silverstein