VILLAGE OF OLD BENNINGTON

 PLANNING COMMISSION

 DESIGN REVIEW HEARING

In re: Christine Costello 2 Church Lane

Permit #25

Fencing across front of yard, street side, white cedar picket.

The application was received on 5.12.25. A copy of the application and certification of mailing to abutting property owners on request to Zoning Administrator at obzoning@gmail.com.

Notice of hearing posted at Old Church Barn, Monument Bulletin Board, and Village web page.

The application was considered by the Planning Commission at a public hearing on July 14, 2025. The Planning Commission reviewed the application under the Village of Old Bennington Zoning Bylaw as amended and readapted April 7, 2020 and amended November 2024.

Present at the hearing were the following members of the Planning Commission:

* Brian Scheetz
* Renny Ponvert (via Zoom)
* Carl Feltz
1. Design Review Hearing 2 Church Lane. Hearing opened at 7:06PM. Christine Costello presented sketch of location of the fence, pictures and description of the type of fencing proposed along with pictures of the front of the house where the fence will go. The fence will sit back 4-6 feet from the road. The fence is French gothic style stained white. The fence will be five feet which exceeds fence height allowed but applicant states that 4 feet will not provide her privacy. Applicant does plan to have shrubbery along the fence. All members of the Board noted they were aware of the property and its lack of privacy.

A neighbor had submitted a letter of support for the fence.

Hearing closed at 7:12 PM

FINDINGS

The Planning Commission notes that the proposed fence is approximately one foot higher than the bylaw allows. Noting the ongoing issue of privacy due to the historical church and cemetery grants exception to the height requirement. The rest of the proposal complies with the Design Review standards of the Village of Old Bennington Bylaws.

DECISION

Motion by Mr. Feltz to approve application as submitted by Christine Costello 2 Church Lane with the stipulation that the fence be placed outside of the Village right of way on Church Lane. Seconded by Mr. Ponvert. Motion passes 3-0-0

dk