

**City of Prospect Heights
Plan/Zoning Board of Appeals
October 25, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Plan/Zoning Board of Appeals was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Weidman, at City Hall, 8 N. Elmhurst Road, in Prospect Heights, Illinois.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Frank-Watson, Dash, Jones, Tammen, Wyatt and
Chairman Weidman

Absent: Commissioner Roscoe (Absent by prior notice)

A Quorum was present. Also present at the meeting: Director of Building and Zoning Steve Skiber, City Attorney Eric Yehl and Recording Secretary Robert Sabo.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 23, 2012 MINUTES

Commissioner Frank-Watson commented that absent by prior notice should be included in the minutes in the roll call for her absence.

Motion made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Dash, to approve the meeting minutes from August 23, 2012 as amended. The motion was approved by a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Dash, Jones, Tammen, Wyatt and Chairman
Weidman

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Roscoe

ABSTAIN: Commissioners Frank-Watson

Motion carried.

Case No. ZBA-12-13AMD/SU

Applicant: John Ilin/DBA Advance Motor Sales and Repair, Inc.

Address: 711 North Elmhurst Road

Requesting a Text Amendment under B-1 Retail Business District Special Uses to allow for used car sales and repair, and a Special Use Permit to allow for used car sales and repair

Attached is the court reporters transcript of Case No. ZBA-12-13AMD/SU.

Attached to the minutes as Exhibit A is a letter to the Commissioners from Helene Kelly.

Attached to the minutes as Exhibit B is a letter to the Commissioners from Corinne Kelly.

Motion made by Commissioner Tammen, seconded by Commissioner Frank-Watson, to deny case ZBA-12-13AMD/SU as presented. The motion was approved by a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Jones, Tammen, Wyatt and Chairman Weidman

NAYS: Commissioner Dash

ABSENT: Commissioner Roscoe

Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Director of Building and Zoning Skiber reported that former Plan/Zoning Board of Appeals Commissioner Larry Purcell has passed away within the last month. He was unable to locate an obituary so he does not have any details. Mr. Purcell was a long standing member of the Plan/Zoning Board of Appeals and a long standing resident of the City. He will be missed.

OLD BUSINESS

Director of Building and Zoning Skiber reported all Plan/Zoning Board of Appeals business is up to date with City Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Director of Building and Zoning Skiber reported that there will be an agenda for the November 15, 2012 Plan/Zoning Board of Appeals meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The October 25, 2012 Plan/Zoning Board of Appeals meeting was adjourned by unanimous voice vote, at 9:22 p.m. with a motion by Commissioner Tammen, seconded by Commissioner Dash.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Sabo, Recording Secretary

City of Prospect Heights Plan/Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing October 25, 2012

Case No. ZBA-12-13AMD/SU

Applicant: John Ilin/DBA Advance Motor Sales and Repair, Inc.

Property Address: 711 N. Elmhurst Road

Property Zoning District: B-1

Description of Requests: Text Amendment under B-1 Retail Business District Special Uses to allow for used car sales and repair, and a Special Use Permit to allow for used car sales and repair

Submitted via email on October 25, 2012 to Commissioner Frank-Watson

Dear Commissioners:

I respectfully request that my testimony, in its entirety, be read into the record of this hearing by Commissioner Frank-Watson.

My name is Helene Kelly and I reside at 707 N. Elmhurst Road, Prospect Heights, Illinois. I am currently outside of the country and therefore unable to attend this hearing. My property is located 100 feet south of the subject property and I have resided there since 1959.

The property at 711 N. Elmhurst Road is zoned B-1 Retail Business and abuts two single family properties in a residential neighborhood. In almost all cases, B-1 parcels are relatively small in size and located in close proximity to R-1 Single Family Residential properties. In B-1 zoning, there are over 100 permitted uses and 14 special uses. These uses were prudently chosen and deemed to be compatible with nearby residential property use. Used car sales and auto repair shops are not compatible or harmonious uses with the surrounding residential areas of any B-1 parcel, including the property at 711 N. Elmhurst Road.

Furthermore, no need can be shown to exist for the proposed uses on the subject parcel nor on any B-1 parcel. Our zoning ordinance already allows for used car sales and auto repair in less restrictive business districts which are located in primarily commercial areas. One example is the Rand Road corridor which is almost exclusively commercial. Unlike the less restrictive business districts, most B-1 parcels are located on streets such as Elmhurst Road, which is primarily residential. Used car sales and auto repair shops are undesirable and inappropriate uses which would should not be allowed to infiltrate and forever change the appearance and character of these areas.

I have serious concerns regarding the many negatives associated with these two types of businesses being allowed in a B-1 district and their adverse impact on the neighborhoods and nearby homes. These include: environmental concerns regarding waste disposal and our private wells; impact on private wells from car washing & detailing; signage (both regular and promotional); noise generated from major auto repair work; and the devaluation of nearby residential properties. As concerns the subject property, there are also additional concerns due to the size of the lot: limited space to accommodate parking for stock, employee, servicing, and sales customer vehicles; close proximity of building to adjacent single family homes; and minimal zoning buffer from business to adjacent residential lots .

Regarding the property at 711 N. Elmhurst Road, we who live in the area would welcome a new business at that location. It is more than justifiable to insist that it be one of the hundred plus allowable uses that already exist for B-1 zoning. It is also our imperative to ensure that it be compatible and harmonious with the surrounding residential area - not harmful or injurious.

The applicant is requesting both a text amendment and a special use permit that would adversely effect the appearance, residential property valuation, and character, not only of our neighborhood, but of all neighborhoods which contain B-1 Retail Business properties. I have outlined numerous valid arguments for denial of the requests. Furthermore, the application does not meet all the requisite standards for the text amendment and special uses as set forth in our zoning ordinance. Therefore, I respectfully ask that you deny both applications.

Sincerely,

Helene Kelly

City of Prospect Heights Plan/Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing October 25, 2012

Case No. ZBA-12-13AMD/SU

Applicant: John Ilin/DBA Advance Motor Sales and Repair, Inc.

Property Address: 711 N. Elmhurst Road

Property Zoning District: B-1

Description of Requests: Text Amendment under B-1 Retail Business District Special Uses to allow for used car sales and repair, and a Special Use Permit to allow for used car sales and repair

Submitted via email on October 25, 2012 to Commissioner Frank-Watson

Dear Commissioners:

I respectfully request that my testimony, in its entirety, be read into the record of this hearing by Commissioner Frank-Watson.

My name is Corinne Kelly. I reside at 207 E. Olive Avenue, Prospect Heights, Illinois, 60070. I am currently outside of the country and therefore unable to attend this hearing.

I am opposed to both the application for a text amendment to our B-1 zoning district special uses and the accompanying application for a special use permit, as they apply to the property at 711 N. Elmhurst Road and to all B-1 properties in general.

Our B-1 zoning district is a retail business district for parcels relatively small in size, primarily adjacent to residential properties, and provides for uses compatible with neighboring residential uses. Most B-1 parcels are located on streets such as Elmhurst Road, which is primarily residential. For that reason, the B-1 zoning classification is the most restrictive of all the business districts. There is a need and a necessity for this zoning classification as it exists. Careful and prudent thought was put into determining both the permitted and special uses for this district. Used auto sales and car repair shops are undesirable uses and are incompatible with the surrounding areas of all but one of our B-1 districts.

Other less restrictive zoning districts already exist which allow for uses such as used auto sales and auto repair shops – for example along Rand Road and south of Chicago Executive Airport. If someone wants to open an auto sales or auto repair business, they have every opportunity to do so in the appropriately zoned districts.

As concerns the “automobile related” uses on the B-1 properties at the northeast and southwest corners of Elmhurst Road, it is important to make some clarifications. Napa Auto Parts is an automobile accessory store, an allowable special use in a B-1 district. Auto repair is strictly prohibited. Dave’s Auto Clinic is legal, existing, non-conforming in the B-1 district. Our zoning ordinance specifically provides for the gradual elimination of non-conforming uses of land through discontinuance of use ordinances. It would be contradictory and illogical to cite this non-conforming use as an argument for amending the ordinance to add auto repair shops as a special use on a nearby B-1 property.

Numerous negatives inherent in the operation and general appearance of used car sales and auto repair shops will have a decidedly negative and harmful impact on the neighboring residences and the local area in any B-1 district. These include signage (permanent and temporary); noise from auto repair work; possible contamination of wells and waste water from improper or inadequate disposal; impact on private wells from car washing & detailing; and the certain diminished value of nearby residential properties. Due to the lot size at 711 N. Elmhurst Road, additional valid concerns exist regarding a minimal zoning buffer with adjacent residential properties, the close proximity of homes to the building, as well as parking for the vehicles for sale, for employees, those waiting to be serviced, and those of sales customers.

No need can be shown to exist for the additional uses requested in the text amendment to our B-1 zoning districts, nor for permitting these uses on the B-1 property at 711 N. Elmhurst Road. As stated before, other zoning districts already exist which allow for such uses. Additionally, under the B-1 Retail Business District, our ordinance lists 122 permitted uses and 14 special uses. Therefore, the subject property and all other B-1 properties certainly have reasonable economic use under the current zoning classification's allowed uses.

A text amendment to our zoning ordinance altering the allowable uses in this district in order to accommodate this or any applicant's desire to open such a business is not judicious zoning. It is, instead, a misuse of text amendments. Accommodating a private interest to the detriment of the neighboring properties, without adequate public advantage or justification, may well be considered illegal spot zoning.

If the application is granted for the amendment to B-1 zoning to allow these special uses, it becomes a special use on each and every B-1 parcel in our city. Anyone with a current or future interest in any of these parcels would have the right to apply for these uses.

Should you grant the application for special use permits for 711 N. Elmhurst Road, you are opening the door for anyone with a current or future interest in Dave's Auto Clinic & Napa Auto Parts to request permits for the same special uses. A legal precedent will have been set and the zoning board would be hard-pressed to find justifiable cause to deny the requests.

Another predictable outcome, especially in regard to 711 N. Elmhurst Road, is the domino effect. We are well aware that the owner of 709 N. Elmhurst Road, the residential property to the south, has previously applied for a map amendment to rezone his parcel from single family to B-1 and consolidation of lots with the intention of building a strip mall on 709 & 711 N. Elmhurst Road. Should the special uses be granted, and someone contemplate expansion of the auto sales and car repair shop, we will assuredly see another attempt to rezone this R-1 property.

Used car sales and auto repair shops – take a good look at Rand Road and other areas with these types of businesses, all of which are located in primarily commercial areas. Is this the appearance and image we want spread to other B-1 districts located in the primarily residential areas of our city? This would not be thoughtful, judicious planning and zoning, nor would be in keeping with the intent or purpose of our zoning ordinance and comprehensive land use plan.

A stated purpose of our zoning ordinance is to protect areas from encroachment by incompatible uses and to make sure that classes of uses are not usurped by other inappropriate uses. The zoning board will hopefully honor this purpose and the obligation to retain the integrity of our ordinance and the zoning districts prescribed within.

In my testimony I have cited substantive, credible, and compelling arguments for denial of the applicant's requests. Most emphatically, the applications for a text amendment and special use permit for either use do not meet all of the legal, requisite standards as prescribed in our zoning ordinance. I therefore respectfully request that you deny both applications.

Sincerely,

Corinne Kelly

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
 2) ss:
 3 COUNTY OF COOK)
 4 BEFORE THE PLAN/ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
 5 PROSPECT HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS
 6 In the Matter of:)
 7)
 8 JOHN ILIN/dba) Case No. ZBA-12-13AMD/SU
 9 ADVANCE MOTOR SALES)
 10 AND REPAIR, INC.)
 11
 12 REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had and testimony
 13 taken at the hearing of the above-entitled
 14 matter before the Prospect Heights Plan/Zoning
 15 Board of Appeals at 8 North Elmhurst Road,
 16 Prospect Heights, Illinois, on the 25th day of
 17 October, A.D., 2012, at the hour of 7:30 p.m.
 18
 19 BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
 20 MR. TOM WEIDMAN, Chairman;
 21 MS. DANIELLE DASH, Commissioner;
 22 MS. CORRINNE FRANK-WATSON, Commissioner;
 MR. TIM JONES, Commissioner;
 MR. JON TAMMEN, Commissioner;
 MR. BENJAMIN WYATT, Commissioner.

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1 ALSO PRESENT:
 2 MR. ROBERT SABO, Recording Secretary;
 3 MR. ERIC YEHL, City Attorney;
 4 MR. STEVE SKIBER, Director of Building
 5 and Zoning;
 6 MR. JOHN ILIN, Applicant.
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1 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Good evening. I
 2 would like to call the Plan/Zoning Board of
 3 Appeals, October 25, 2012, meeting to order.
 4 Could I have a roll call, please.
 5 MR. SABO: Commissioner Tammén?
 6 COMMISSIONER TAMMEN: Here.
 7 MR. SABO: Commissioner Dash?
 8 COMMISSIONER DASH: Here.
 9 MR. SABO: Commissioner Jones?
 10 COMMISSIONER JONES: Here.
 11 MR. SABO: Commissioner Frank-Watson?
 12 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Here.
 13 MR. SABO: Commissioner Roscoe?
 14 COMMISSIONER TAMMEN: He is absent by
 15 prior notice.
 16 MR. SABO: Commissioner Wyatt?
 17 MR. WYATT: Here.
 18 MR. SABO: Chairman Weidman?
 19 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Here.
 20 I hope everyone had a chance to
 21 read the minutes from our August 23, 2012,
 22 meeting. Do I have any comments or corrections

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1 to those minutes?
 2 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: I will be
 3 abstaining tonight because I was absent. But if
 4 someone could just add that I was absent by
 5 prior notice, I would appreciate it.
 6 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Okay.
 7 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Thank you.
 8 COMMISSIONER JONES: I move we accept
 9 the minutes as amended.
 10 COMMISSIONER DASH: Second that.
 11 MR. YEHL: Roll call, please.
 12 MR. SABO: Motion made by Commissioner
 13 Jones, seconded by Commissioner Dash.
 14 Move to approve as amended. Roll
 15 call: Commission Tammén?
 16 COMMISSIONER TAMMEN: Yes.
 17 MR. SABO: Commissioner Dash?
 18 COMMISSIONER DASH: Aye.
 19 MR. SABO: Commissioner Jones?
 20 COMMISSIONER JONES: Aye.
 21 MR. SABO: Commissioner Frank-Watson?
 22 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Abstain.

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1 MR. SABO: Commissioner Roscoe.
 2 Commissioner Wyatt?
 3 COMMISSIONER WYATT: Aye.
 4 MR. SABO: Chairman Weidman?
 5 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Aye.
 6 The case in front of us tonight is
 7 case No. ZBA Case 12-13-AMD/SU. The applicant
 8 is John Ilin, doing business as Advance Motor
 9 Sales and Repair, Inc. The address is 711 North
 10 Elmhurst Road.
 11 John is requesting a Text Amendment
 12 under B-1 Retail Business District Special Uses
 13 to allow for used car sales and repair and a
 14 Special Use Permit to allow for used car sales
 15 and repair.
 16 Is the applicant here?
 17 MR. ILIN: Yes.
 18 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Do you have your
 19 green card receipts for the notices that went
 20 out?
 21 MR. ILIN: Yes.
 22 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Would you bring them

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1 up, please.
 2 MR. ILIN: I'm sorry. I was just in
 3 such a hurry, and I don't have it with me. And
 4 I think --
 5 Did you e-mail?
 6 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: All right. John,
 7 will you be testifying tonight?
 8 MR. ILIN: Yes.
 9 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Would you step up to
 10 the podium, please.
 11 Would you state your name and
 12 address for the record.
 13 MR. ILIN: John Ilin. I live in
 14 Skokie. 5011 Golf Road in Skokie, Illinois.
 15 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Raise your right
 16 hand.
 17 (Mr. Ilin sworn.)
 18 MR. ILIN: Yes, I do.
 19 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: So since you didn't
 20 bring your green card receipts, are you
 21 testifying tonight that you did mail out all of
 22 the proper notices?

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1 MR. ILIN: Yes.
 2 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Okay. Then unless
 3 there is an objection from the board here, I
 4 would like to give you three days to present
 5 them to Mr. Skiber. Okay?
 6 MR. ILIN: Thank you. I appreciate it.
 7 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: So then now what I
 8 would like you to do, John, is explain to the
 9 board and everyone in the audience specifically
 10 what your intentions are for this piece of
 11 property. And please be specific about the area
 12 around it, the parking, and everything. Because
 13 we would all like to know, this is a unique
 14 parcel; and we are interested in how you plan to
 15 put your proposal together.
 16 MR. ILIN: Okay. Our intention is to
 17 sell used cars, actually quality cars with a
 18 warranty for 30 days and free maintenance for
 19 one year and 10,000 miles, which include oil
 20 change and brake pads and labor. That's what we
 21 are planning to do.
 22 And the cars will be priced around

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1 \$10,000, over or under, will be clean cars with
 2 no rust, no -- Great, 100 percent condition.
 3 And we have inside a show room where we can park
 4 around 15, 18 cars and outside another maybe 15
 5 or -- around 15 cars.
 6 MR. ILIN: On the north side, north
 7 side of the building, we are planning to use
 8 that, we suppose about 15 cars. And the front
 9 we have customer parking with handicap. And
 10 also in the back we have customers' parking and
 11 for ourselves parking. Then repair shop, we are
 12 using the repairs for our cars and to maintain
 13 the cars we are selling.
 14 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Okay. Thank you,
 15 John.
 16 MR. SKIBER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
 17 There is quite a bit more to this proposal.
 18 Yes, absolutely, parking is an issue. As you
 19 said, we are familiar with the site. I'm very
 20 familiar with the site.
 21 The site is considered legal
 22 existing nonconforming. It was a nonconforming

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1 building. It was a nonconforming use when it
 2 was Quality Discount Used Parts -- or Auto
 3 Parts. And nonconforming lot and nonconforming
 4 use, it was nonconforming also to parking. It
 5 does not meet the minimum width for a B-1 lot of
 6 300 feet, it does not have a conforming corner
 7 side yard. It does not have the conforming
 8 transitional yards to a resident -- to the two
 9 residential properties on the south and the
 10 east. But it is what it is. It was developed
 11 and grandfathered in to the City in 1976 when
 12 the City incorporated.

13 Previous petitioners were going to
 14 demolish the existing structure. And therefore,
 15 there was going to be some conformity of
 16 setbacks and parking, etcetera, etcetera. This
 17 proposal does not involve any demolition of the
 18 structure. It involves the existing structure,
 19 the existing lot, the existing setbacks that we
 20 have to work with; and we will work with them as
 21 best we can if this does get approved.

22 Notwithstanding, the building

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1 itself is roughly between 4500 and 5,000 square
 2 feet, it's original construction. The owner of
 3 the property is present, and he has received a
 4 permit from the City many months ago to improve
 5 the site inside and outside. And if you look at
 6 the site today, I think you can agree that it's
 7 an attractive building.

8 Whereas before I think it would be
 9 considered a blighted site. So we are happy
 10 with that initiative. We are happy to be
 11 potentially talking about a vacancy on that
 12 site. It has been vacant for approximately
 13 seven years.

14 The four corners of the inter-
 15 section of 83 and Palatine Road on three of the
 16 corners are zoned B-1. The NAPA site is B-1,
 17 the 711, the Quality Auto Parts is B-1. And the
 18 northeast, Dave's Auto Clinic, is B-1. Dave's
 19 Auto Clinic I believe went into business on or
 20 about sometime in 1978. And according to our
 21 current zoning would have required a special use
 22 permit to allow for an auto clinic in a B-1

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1 zone.

2 I did find in 1996 City Council
 3 approved expanding that special use to increase
 4 the building and, therefore, allow an increase
 5 in business for the auto clinic which, in
 6 effect, is really auto repair because that's
 7 what they do on the site.

8 So that would be an automotive use
 9 in a B-1 district. As best as I could
 10 determine, the 710 property where NAPA is now,
 11 prior to that was Heights Automotive, which was
 12 parts. And I think before that was maybe a gas
 13 station, service station, repair. And again,
 14 it's zoned B-1 but it's an automotive use.

15 The fourth corner, which is
 16 Wellbrook is a B-4 commercial PUD. It's a
 17 vacant lot ready for development, potentially a
 18 pad site for a restaurant. So take that out of
 19 the mix, three B-1 corners are all automotive
 20 uses.

21 Mr. Ilin is proposing to do used
 22 car sales inside and outside and auto repair in

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1 the back with three bays. I'm not so sure about
 2 the 15 cars on the outside.

3 MR. ILIN: Whatever we can accommodate.
 4 It's not, it's not --

5 MR. SKIBER: Mr. Ilin, I think
 6 realistically we are talking about half that.

7 MR. ILIN: Okay. That's not a problem.

8 MR. SKIBER: As long as you are willing
 9 to work with this, we are going to get down this
 10 road.

11 MR. ILIN: Sure. That's right.

12 MR. SKIBER: The other issue is
 13 customer parking. I think there is a way to
 14 expand that in the front to allow for a handicap
 15 space and maybe add two or three more spaces, I
 16 saw a way to do that today; and try to maximize
 17 the lot as best you can. You are going to need
 18 spaces for the cars that are repaired. You are
 19 going to need spaces for your employees,
 20 etcetera, etcetera.

21 We also want to talk about your
 22 hours of operation. And I'm encouraged to hear

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1 that you are placing a value of the cars that
2 you want to market for sale at \$10,000. Does
3 that mean that every car will have a value of
4 \$10,000, not less than \$10,000?

5 MR. ILIN: It would be more or less.
6 It would be average around 10,000.

7 MR. SKIBER: Will you have any cars
8 that will be 6,000?

9 MR. ILIN: Yes, we do.

10 MR. SKIBER: But again, you are making
11 a statement of \$10,000 value cars, that's the
12 car we are looking at. We are not looking at
13 something half that?

14 MR. ILIN: Then we should put, I don't
15 know, maybe 5 to 15,000 or 5, whatever, 30,000.

16 MR. SKIBER: I mean we are not going to
17 get to that detail. But if you make a statement
18 that the car value is going to be \$10,000, we
19 are going to hold you to that.

20 MR. LLIN: Okay. Then can you reword
21 this, just have clean inventory with warranty
22 because on the car with \$1,000, nobody can offer

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1 warranty; but I'm offering warranty on every car
2 I sell.

3 MR. SKIBER: I understand that. And I
4 would like to, you know, get you to commit to
5 some type of a, something that you can work with
6 that we can agree with as far as a higher-end
7 car. You know what I mean? We want clean,
8 quality cars.

9 MR. ILIN: Yes.

10 MR. SKIBER: Okay. Other than that, a
11 little bit of history about used cars in
12 Prospect Heights. It's a very brief history.
13 As best as I can determine from our records,
14 back in 2000 at 1204 South Milwaukee, which is
15 just off the corner of Milwaukee Avenue and
16 Palatine, frontage road, there was a petition in
17 2000 for -- by Jerry Cairo, the owner of the
18 property at the time for New Deal Used Cars, I
19 do remember it. It was a text amendment, a map
20 amendment, and a special use for that site,
21 which I think was a B-2 site at the time, for an
22 open used car lot. It did go in operation. It

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1 was in operation for several years until the
2 site was redeveloped. And so we did have a used
3 car lot in that location.

4 The second location that is in use
5 today is on Rand Road at 1410 North Rand Road.
6 Approximately three years ago Jeff Ringa came
7 before Council personally to the Rand Road
8 Business Corridor Ordinance and got approval to
9 open an open lot used car sales, and we have not
10 had a complaint from him. The City benefits
11 from that by obtaining a one percent sales tax
12 on each transaction. So there is a benefit to
13 the City.

14 Other than that, Mr. Ilin,
15 petitioners will have questions regarding your
16 business plan and we will get through this
17 process. Just one comment about the process.
18 Many of you are familiar with this process, this
19 planning and zoning board of appeals. It's a
20 recommending body to the City Council. So part
21 of this process is to hear testimony from the
22 petitioner, to hear examination questions from

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1 the commissioners, and then to hear testimony
2 from anyone in the audience.

3 Anyone in the audience that wishes
4 to speak for or against or for any reason
5 regarding this petition will be heard.

6 And we have a court reporter here
7 that is taking the minutes, verbatim, word by
8 word. We will get a copy of that transcript.
9 We will review that transcript, and we will get
10 the transcript approved by the commissioners,
11 and move this on to the City Council.

12 It will go to the City Council in
13 one of two ways. It will be a recommendation of
14 the motion at the end of this hearing, whatever
15 that may be. And in order to have a
16 recommendation to the City Council, four of the
17 seated six commissioners must affirm the
18 recommendation. If it doesn't have four, if
19 it's less than four, then it goes to the City
20 Council as a negative recommendation.

21 At the City Council level with a
22 recommendation it takes three of the five seated

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1 aldermen to approve. If it goes to the City as
2 a negative recommendation, it takes four of the
3 five. It will probably take at least 45 to 60
4 days before it shows up on a City Council
5 agenda. It will go on first reading, and then
6 the actual ordinance will be voted on at second
7 reading. Okay?

8 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you, Steve.

10 I would like to enter some exhibits
11 into the record. ZBA No. 1 is the application.
12 ZBA No. 2 is the plat of survey. ZBA No. 3 is
13 the assignment to the agenda. ZBA No. 4 is the
14 site plan. ZBA 5 is the business plan. ZBA
15 No. 6 is the business profile. ZBA No. 7 is the
16 certificate of publication. ZBA No. 8 is the
17 list of property owners. And ZBA No. 9 is the
18 notice to the property owners. Thank you.

19 All right. Do any of the
20 commissioners have any comments or questions?

21 COMMISSIONER TAMMEN: Mr. Chairman, I
22 have a question regarding the parking.

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1 According to the site plan that was within our
2 packets, there are 16 parking spots, 2 of which
3 are the handicap. And also in the description
4 of the business plan 4 to 6 of those spots will
5 be used for employees. So that only leaves, you
6 know, 6 or 7 open spots for customers and cars
7 for service. I just don't see how that's going
8 to work.

9 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: I have a
10 question related to parking as well. You stated
11 that under oath tonight that you were not going
12 to be repairing customer cars, only the cars
13 that you are selling. However in your business
14 plan that you submitted it says that you will
15 also repair customer cars. So --

16 MR. ILIN: Yes. Actually, we consider
17 customers if I sell a car and the customer is
18 coming back, that's a customer.

19 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: And how
20 many cars do you intend to have at your
21 establishment to be repaired on any given day?

22 MR. ILIN: Maybe a few of them, maybe

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1 at the most 3, 4.

2 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Really?

3 MR. ILIN: Yes.

4 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: 3 or 4.

5 And how many customers do you plan to have at a
6 time?

7 MR. ILIN: At a time, it's hard to say
8 also. I, I could say during Saturdays I may
9 have three or four at a time. But during,
10 during the day maybe one or two. Because we
11 are, it's going to be a modest operation, not
12 really a big operation.

13 And if we carry 15 to 20 cars or
14 so, then we cannot expect to have that many
15 people.

16 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: How many
17 cars are you planning to park outside that are
18 for sale?

19 MR. ILIN: Now, since Mr. Skiber's
20 mentioned maybe, maybe 7, 8.

21 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Okay.
22 Because if I add that up, then if you have 6

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1 employees, plus 4 customer cars for repair,
2 that's 10; plus 4 customers, that's 14; plus 7
3 cars that are for sale, you have already
4 exceeded the amount of available parking you
5 have. So I'm wondering how you plan to work
6 around this.

7 MR. ILIN: In case if I don't, if I
8 don't have enough parking for customers, I would
9 not display that many cars outside. I will have
10 to reduce the parking for display cars, and I
11 have to accommodate the customers.

12 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Are you
13 going to be offering loaner cars?

14 MR. ILIN: At the moment, at the
15 moment, no.

16 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Because,
17 again, that's a factor because you will have to
18 provide parking for that as well.

19 MR. ILIN: At the moment, no.

20 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Do you have
21 plans to allow for parking?

22 MR. ILIN: With the time, maybe the

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1 property next door will be available for sale,
 2 maybe I could buy that one.
 3 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON:
 4 Interesting. Thank you.
 5 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Mr. Ilin, what are
 6 your hours of operation going to be here?
 7 MR. ILIN: During the week, we are
 8 planning to have the store open at 8 o'clock
 9 just in case if customers wants to drop cars
 10 off, you know. But sales will start at
 11 9 o'clock. Service will be 9:00 to 5:00. And
 12 sales will be till 6 o'clock during the week.
 13 And on weekends we are 9:00 to 5:00 and holidays
 14 closed.
 15 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: I'm sorry.
 16 Could you repeat that again? So now Monday
 17 through Friday your sales are, hours are --
 18 MR. ILIN: 8:00, we start -- No.
 19 Sales will be at 9:00. But service, somebody
 20 has to be there just in case if somebody has,
 21 wants to drop a car, has to be somebody over
 22 there just to talk to the customers.

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1 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: So one of
 2 the customers that have already purchased a car
 3 from you?
 4 MR. ILIN: Yes.
 5 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: And then
 6 for Saturday, Sunday --
 7 MR. ILIN: Which purchase a car from
 8 me. And with the time, I may have customers
 9 coming off the street, you know, because would
 10 be recommendation. You know, I used to have a
 11 place in Mount Prospect. I start with that
 12 place only strictly foreign cars. And customers
 13 they had domestic cars, and they kind of forced
 14 me to work on their cars. And I start to work
 15 on both cars. And same thing maybe will be if
 16 somebody purchase a car, and they are happy with
 17 my service and has a family member wants to
 18 bring his car to me to work, I can't say no.
 19 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: So then to
 20 go back to what you said originally, you stated
 21 that you would only be working on customer cars.
 22 And like I said, your business plan says you are

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1 working on, you know, other repairs as well.
 2 I'm just trying to gauge how many
 3 cars might be parked there at one time, so we
 4 know if there is adequate space, that's all.
 5 MR. ILIN: I don't think to be parked
 6 more than, like I said, 4, 5, 4 cars for the
 7 customers.
 8 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Okay.
 9 MR. LLIN: I wish to be more, but maybe
 10 not.
 11 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: And do you
 12 feel that you have adequate space for a tow
 13 truck that might come to drop off a car that
 14 needs repairing?
 15 MR. ILIN: Yes, on the south side of
 16 the building. That would be enough room for tow
 17 trucks, fire trucks, any heavy trucks to pass
 18 by.
 19 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Have you
 20 accounted for space for a dumpster and a scrap
 21 bin?
 22 MR. ILIN: Yes, at the back of the

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1 building.
 2 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Would that
 3 be here?
 4 MR. ILIN: Next to the door. Between
 5 the door and the wall on the west side.
 6 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Do you have
 7 your plan with you this evening that you could
 8 show me exactly where that is or show the
 9 commissioners? I'm just trying to see where. I
 10 can give mine.
 11 MR. ILIN: I have to use yours because
 12 I forgot everything. I'm sorry.
 13 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: No. Don't
 14 apologize.
 15 MR. ILIN: Okay. This is the front.
 16 This is, this is right here. Okay. Here.
 17 Okay. Here is the exit door. Garbage will go
 18 here on this side.
 19 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Okay. And
 20 the scrap bin as well?
 21 MR. ILIN: Yes.
 22 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: And does

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1 the building currently have a filter for the
 2 proper disposal of hazardous materials?
 3 MR. ILIN: I assume so. If not, we
 4 have to install one.
 5 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Do you know
 6 what that entails by any chance?
 7 MR. ILIN: No.
 8 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Because,
 9 obviously, it's a concern, there are residences
 10 there, any disposal of antifreeze --
 11 MR. ILIN: That will be, disposal of
 12 antifreeze and oil will be special tanks inside
 13 the building and will not be outside.
 14 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Okay.
 15 MR. ILIN: Special tanks for that.
 16 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: And will
 17 you need to make modification to the building to
 18 make proper ventilation and sprinkling?
 19 MR. ILIN: I think everything gets --
 20 It's there.
 21 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Do you
 22 happen to know the distance between your

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1 building and the building to the south?
 2 MR. ILIN: That's a question I cannot
 3 answer.
 4 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Or to the
 5 east. There are two homes that are adjacent to
 6 your building?
 7 MR. ILIN: I assume maybe on east side
 8 would be maybe, 40 feet or so.
 9 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: 40.
 10 MR. ILIN: 40 or more I think. And on
 11 the south will be maybe 30.
 12 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Next
 13 question about lighting. Do you currently have
 14 a photometric plan?
 15 MR. ILIN: No.
 16 -- COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: No. What
 17 types of lighting are you proposing, exterior
 18 lighting?
 19 MR. ILIN: Whatever exterior lights are
 20 on the building, we are not planning to use any
 21 additional lights on the exterior. Whatever it
 22 is, we'll use.

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1 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Okay.
 2 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Excuse me, Corrinne,
 3 one minute.
 4 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: No, I'm
 5 sorry, please interject.
 6 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Can you speak to the
 7 process of the City codes and the building codes
 8 that will have to be followed? Because I know
 9 what Corrinne is getting at, and we do require a
 10 photometric plan and all of that. But could you
 11 speak to that?
 12 MR. SKIBER: Yes. I think that would
 13 be more relative to development at the site or
 14 new construction. When we met preliminarily, we
 15 did talk about these things. And again, site
 16 lighting, security lighting, etcetera, etcetera.
 17 Mr. Ilin did say he would utilize existing
 18 lighting on the building. We talked about the
 19 possibility of motion sensor lighting for
 20 security purposes. And he did indicate that the
 21 building did have, was going to have security
 22 monitoring system.

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1 MR. ILIN: Yes.
 2 MR. SKIBER: As far as the building
 3 itself goes, we talked about for the use of the
 4 building, he would have to meet current code,
 5 which would be a triple basin anywhere that the
 6 automobiles are inside the building, so that's
 7 front and rear with the trench drain. We would
 8 also, he would have to meet the ventilation
 9 criteria and any other part of the building code
 10 that's applicable.
 11 So if we do it that it's an
 12 existing structure, however, for the use, he
 13 will have to meet code in all respects. Now, he
 14 will not be required to be sprinklered. Our
 15 code does not require existing buildings to do
 16 that. However, he will be required to have a
 17 full, fully compliant NFPA 72 monitored fire
 18 alarm system that will go to a central station
 19 should there be a problem.
 20 Does that kind of help you out?
 21 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you, Steve.
 22 I'm sorry.

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1 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: No. Thank
 2 you. No, that's fine.
 3 And then regarding signage, staff
 4 has informed us that you will not be requesting
 5 a variance for any signage?
 6 MR. ILIN: No. We have to have, we are
 7 planning to have a sign in front of the building
 8 and on the side on the north side.
 9 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Do you
 10 anticipate needing a variance for height or the
 11 square footage of the sign? I mean are you
 12 planning on complying?
 13 MR. ILIN: Whatever the City requires,
 14 we are complying with. Whatever we --
 15 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: And are you
 16 planning on placing any flags outside to attract
 17 customers?
 18 MR. ILIN: Just in case if we are
 19 allowed to maybe for holidays maybe, maybe yes.
 20 But if it's allowable to have flags; otherwise,
 21 no.
 22 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: I'm just

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1 curious, why are you proposing this business
 2 here and not in an area that's zoned for used
 3 car sales or auto repair? I'm just, you know,
 4 what's so enticing about the property? Because
 5 it just seems that there are a lot of challenges
 6 that come with it.
 7 MR. ILIN: I agree with you. I used to
 8 have a business in Mount Prospect, and I like
 9 the area. And since Mount Prospect is --
 10 Prospect Heights is close. And I live in
 11 Skokie. I could have a place in Crystal Lake,
 12 but when I count the hour in the summer in the
 13 car one way I figure it's not worth it. For me
 14 to get to work over here, it takes me about 15
 15 minutes, which is not bad.
 16 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: I think you
 17 might have misunderstood my question, or I
 18 wasn't clear enough. Is there a reason why you
 19 didn't look to establish your business in an
 20 area that's already zoned to allow for this use
 21 rather than coming before the City and
 22 requesting a text amendment, which essentially

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1 would have us rezone all B-1s to allow this as a
 2 special use, both of these a special use? I'm
 3 just wondering why you didn't go in somewhere
 4 where it's already allowed in Prospect Heights.
 5 MR. ILIN: Believe it or not, in every
 6 city, every place you find, still we have to go
 7 for special use permit. You have to -- So far
 8 I try in Skokie. I try in Morton Grove. And
 9 still you have to, even in Crystal Lake, still
 10 you have to go in front of the city council and
 11 for the special use permit on selling cars. On
 12 repairs, it's not a problem. But selling cars
 13 you have to --
 14 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Because we
 15 do have areas here if you are interested. I'm
 16 just wondering why you put up with such a
 17 challenge in the lot being the way it is, so --
 18 And do you own Global Automotive? I know you
 19 provided us with an inventory from there, or do
 20 you just supply cars to them?
 21 MR. ILIN: Just I supply cars. I'm
 22 working in partnership with Global Automotive.

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1 My business is in Indiana, in Dyer, Indiana.
 2 I'm a wholesaler, but I work with Global
 3 Automotive. I display cars over there and I
 4 work.
 5 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: So you just
 6 send your cars in, you don't own the business?
 7 You don't have any choice over how they run
 8 their business or how they display their cars,
 9 that's somebody else's business?
 10 MR. ILIN: Actually we are working
 11 together on that.
 12 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: You are
 13 working together, but it's not your
 14 establishment?
 15 MR. ILIN: It's not mine. I'm not
 16 writing the check for the rent.
 17 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Right. And
 18 then you mentioned that your cars, originally
 19 you said your cars would be priced around
 20 \$10,000. And then you changed your mind and
 21 said that, okay, maybe 6,000. And then you
 22 said, well, okay, we will just have clean cars.

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1 MR. ILIN: I have to, I have to make a
 2 correction on that. Sometime when I buy a great
 3 car at auction and I have a good deal, I want to
 4 pass that deal to a customer. And sometime a
 5 nice car, very clean car could be under 5,000.
 6 For example right now I was at auction, and I
 7 pick up 2000 Saab 95, 90,000 miles, super clean
 8 car, perfect. Actually, the driver's seat you
 9 can see just a small wear. On the passenger, in
 10 the rear, you cannot tell somebody was sitting
 11 on those seats. You know, the car doesn't have
 12 scratches, doesn't have dents. Now I pay \$2,000
 13 for this car. I cannot ask \$10,000 for the car.
 14 You know, just I will, I will put a small
 15 markup. And I will make somebody happy with
 16 that car.

17 COMMISSIONER WYATT: Putting aside the
 18 diamond in the rough sort of deal, we are sort
 19 of looking at more like you take 100 cars, are
 20 95 of them or 96 of them going to be above a
 21 certain price point? Not if I find this lucky
 22 car, I think that's what more the concern is.

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1 Right?

2 So that's sort of what we are
 3 asking, okay. If out of 100 cars, do you feel
 4 confident that 96 of them would be above, say,
 5 whatever number you wanted to use?

6 MR. LLIN: Yes. I could say above,
 7 let's put 5, 7,000, 10,000 because right now
 8 this car I would plan to sell for maybe about
 9 3,000, 2800, you know, just a small margin on
 10 the, small profit, you know. And if somebody is
 11 buying this car for \$3,000, he's very happy.

12 COMMISSIONER WYATT: Sure. I
 13 understand that. I guess the concern more is,
 14 at least from what I'm hearing, like you've
 15 thrown out a number like 10,000, like 5, 7 or 5,
 16 it actually doesn't matter.

17 My concern in the long run is we
 18 are going to start seeing these numbers sort of
 19 degrade over time, after the whole thing is
 20 done, which is an average of 5,000, you know,
 21 because the market is what it is or the cars you
 22 get are the cars you get. It's not -- Whatever

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1 it might be.

2 But we are looking at cars that are
 3 well used for 3,000, \$1500, you know, a year or
 4 two down the road because that's just the way
 5 sometimes things happen. You know what I mean?
 6 And so many I think that's sort of the concern
 7 that you are not real confident in the number
 8 that you are giving us.

9 MR. ILIN: You know, I could say, I
 10 could say, okay, not 10 and not 5, let's put
 11 around 7,000 and that will be 7,000 and up.
 12 Okay. That will be, that will be the cars.

13 COMMISSIONER WYATT: Okay. I
 14 apologize.

15 MR. ILIN: It's we can use 7,000 and
 16 up.

17 COMMISSIONER WYATT: For me parking
 18 falls in the same category. I know we want X
 19 number of cars to start out, which is fine.
 20 Then you say, well, we'll gerrymander it as
 21 needed. But you don't seem particularly
 22 confident in actually being sure of what your

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1 business is going to look like in the sense that
 2 maybe you think it's going to be this number of
 3 employees, this number of cars from customers.

4 Well, what if it's double that and
 5 you have cars on your lot? And you say, well,
 6 we just won't have many cars but you have
 7 already got cars on your lot. And you have got
 8 customers, and you have got employees, and you
 9 have two houses behind you, and a busy road on
 10 three sides. And it's not as simple as saying,
 11 we will just make it work. It has to work. And
 12 so I'm concerned about your level of confidence
 13 in terms of what your actual number of
 14 customers, number of employees, number of cars
 15 is going to look like down the road.

16 MR. LLIN: Number of customers, like I
 17 said, at the time I may have 4, 4 cars, 4
 18 customer cars. And employees, we have 4, 4 cars
 19 would be 8. You know, and that will accommodate
 20 the back, the back part. And we have front
 21 parking. We have side parking.

22 And on the side, on the north side,

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1 if I park only 7 cars, still I have room to park
2 at least 4 or 5 I think cars because I was
3 counting that today how many cars I could just,
4 I measure how many cars I could really park
5 there on the angle.

6 COMMISSIONER WYATT: Okay.
7 Unfortunately on this property it looks like
8 there is very little sort of room for error.
9 There is some overlay a little bit. But when
10 you are on the road or in somebody's yard --

11 MR. ILIN: Oh, no. No.

12 COMMISSIONER WYATT: Yeah, we can say
13 that would never happen. But the point is your
14 margin is very slim for going over on, you know,
15 any of these estimates, which, you know, it's a
16 consideration.

17 MR. ILIN: When I start, I would start
18 with few cars. And with the time, I would see
19 how many I can accommodate. For sure I will not
20 park on the street. I will not ask the
21 neighbors to use their driveway. And whatever I
22 can use, and I accommodate with the parking

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1 space to be comfortable for me and for my
2 customers, I use.

3 COMMISSIONER WYATT: Okay. Thank you,
4 Mr. Wyatt.

5 MR. ILIN: I think that's --

6 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Does anyone else
7 have any comments or questions at this time?

8 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Are you
9 planning on selling any of these cars at
10 auctions?

11 MR. ILIN: Yes. Yes. I'm doing right
12 now.

13 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: So the cars
14 that you will have here, you will sell at
15 auction?

16 MR. ILIN: If the car doesn't sell,
17 let's say, I have time and I consider I have
18 to -- I should take the car at auction, I'm
19 taking the car at auction.

20 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Although we
21 are not allowed to, as a zoning board we are not
22 supposed to take into consideration the

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1 financial benefit this would have on the City, I
2 just would like to state that if you sell these
3 cars at an auction then the City doesn't benefit
4 from that sale.

5 MR. ILIN: I agree with you. But if I
6 have a car, let's say, for about three months or
7 so or six months and I cannot sell it on the
8 lot, I cannot keep it because it will get too
9 old. I have to take it to auction and take the
10 loss. I am losing on that deal also. I prefer
11 to sell the cars on the lot, then I make the
12 money and the City will make the money. Because
13 in a way, if I lose, everybody lose.

14 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: And going
15 back to parking. I'm sorry, I guess it's just
16 hard for me to wrap my head around this. But
17 you are proposing from the numbers you gave me
18 having at least 21 cars at a given time but
19 there are only 14 spaces available.

20 MR. ILIN: I have parking inside.

21 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: And how
22 many cars can you park inside the 2400 square

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1 foot space?

2 MR. ILIN: I could park inside 8, could
3 say 12, 15, 16, but 18, about 18 cars inside.
4 Because I could park 4 on one wall, 4 on other,
5 and 4 on the other wall. And plus in the
6 center, I could park maybe another 4 or 5 cars.

7 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Okay.

8 COMMISSIONER DASH: I have a few
9 comments. Thank you for presenting this
10 evening. And I do feel that the use you are
11 presenting is consistent with the other uses
12 that we are seeing at that intersection.
13 Clearly, it's a very busy intersection. There
14 is a lot of traffic, a lot happening there. So
15 I do think it's a good use.

16 Clearly, you have experience in
17 this business. You have operated a shop in
18 another location. And I clearly think you will
19 have to make accommodations if something is not
20 going well. You have space. I know we are very
21 concerned about the exterior parking. But as
22 you pointed out, there is room inside the

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1 building.

2 MR. ILIN: Yes.

3 COMMISSIONER DASH: So I think if

4 parking does become a problem, I mean you will

5 have to deal with it because clearly you will

6 need places for people to park.

7 MR. ILIN: Sure.

8 COMMISSIONER DASH: And if you are not

9 successful in accommodating your employees and

10 customers, clearly you are not going to have a

11 successful business. So I think you will have

12 to, if you feel it's a suitable space, clearly a

13 space on your expertise or opinion because you

14 have done this before.

15 As far as the value of the cars, I

16 clearly think it's your best interest to have

17 cars that will sell. So as far as parking seven

18 \$500 cars out front, I don't think that's your

19 goal because clearly --

20 MR. ILIN: It's not. It's not. But

21 just --

22 COMMISSIONER DASH: Because that's not

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1 what your customers want. So I would think you

2 would put cars out there that people want to buy

3 and that they would move quickly and sell a lot

4 of cars and replace those cars with new cars to

5 be sold. And it sounds like if you have

6 inventory that's not moving that you have other

7 ways to move those cars off your lot. So

8 hopefully, we can see fresh inventory of cars

9 that people would want.

10 And I'm not sure if there is

11 opportunities for offsite parking. I know there

12 is other areas that maybe if parking became an

13 issue you could have your employees park offsite

14 somewhere, if you had arrangements with local

15 business owners. I'm not sure if that would

16 ever become an option.

17 But the reality of it is the uses

18 surrounding this building are very consistent

19 with what you are proposing. The drive past

20 that building and seeing it vacant for many

21 years I don't think is a good situation. I'm

22 glad to see that it has been renovated recently.

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1 That certainly improved the aesthetics of that

2 building. And so I think it's great that we

3 have someone who is interested in occupying the

4 building. I think it's a better situation than

5 having it vacant. And certainly I don't think,

6 although I don't think we are supposed to make a

7 decision on this, I think it's great that the

8 use you are proposing would benefit the City.

9 That's all I have to say.

10 MR. ILIN: Thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER DASH: You are welcome.

12 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Are you

13 licensed in Illinois as a dealer?

14 MR. ILIN: No. Indiana.

15 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Indiana.

16 And do you plan to become a licensed dealer in

17 the State of Illinois?

18 MR. ILIN: Yes.

19 COMMISSIONER JONES: You previously

20 were?

21 MR. ILIN: I'm sorry?

22 COMMISSIONER JONES: You previously

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1 were licensed in Illinois?

2 MR. ILIN: Only as a repair shop but

3 not in sales.

4 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Do you have

5 any sales history in Illinois?

6 MR. ILIN: Yes.

7 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: That was

8 the Mount Prospect?

9 MR. ILIN: No. I used to sell cars for

10 Grossinger Volvo, and I'm selling cars over here

11 at Global.

12 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Commissioner Jones,

13 is there any concern regarding access as far as

14 the fire department is concerned.

15 COMMISSIONER JONES: As long as that

16 south drive is always open.

17 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: So that would always

18 have to stay clear, any parked cars --

19 COMMISSIONER JONES: The north, the

20 north side, which is that frontage road, even if

21 there was that setback is, what, 17 plus a

22 sidewalk, 20 some feet.

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1 MR. SKIBER: Right.
 2 COMMISSIONER JONES: That's not an
 3 issue. It's only about 18 foot building maybe,
 4 maybe 20 foot tall. So that's not a problem at
 5 all. As long as we have that south drive, that
 6 would be the -- It would have to designated no
 7 parking along that south drive. And currently
 8 in his parking plan it doesn't list that as any
 9 parking.

10 MR. ILIN: No. Actually that's the
 11 plan, to leave it open for fire truck and
 12 traffic to go by.

13 MR. SKIBER: Mr. Chairman, can I
 14 comment on that?

15 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Yes, Mr. Skiber.

16 MR. SKIBER: For an existing building
 17 of this type, if you look at the site plan, it
 18 has access on all four sides. That's unique for
 19 an existing building. If you look across the
 20 street at NAPA, NAPA has access on this, I'm
 21 talking about fire department access, only on
 22 two sides. Very few buildings, existing

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1 buildings, meet the current code requirement to
 2 have access around the building.
 3 So this is unique. And yes, we
 4 will maintain that. I think petitioner would be
 5 happy to post that no parking and maintain that.
 6 I was there today. I did with a measuring
 7 device -- And some of this site plan
 8 measurements are off a little bit. I did
 9 measure on the south end from the guardrail to
 10 the post of the fence of 17 feet 6 inches. It
 11 references 16'10" on the site plan.

12 In any case, I was able to come up
 13 with a rough sketch of the plan to increase the
 14 parking to a total of 5 in the front not
 15 including the handicap space. So given this
 16 site plan and the spaces in the back and putting
 17 the trash dumpster, there appears to be space in
 18 the -- that would be the northeast corner where
 19 the well head is, 9 spaces in the back, the 6 on
 20 the north, I could get -- you could potentially
 21 get 5 customer parking in the front, not
 22 including the accessible parking, which is a

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1 double space. We could get 20 usable parking
 2 spaces, 21 including the accessible parking
 3 space. And again, we would hold you to the
 4 statements that there is not an option for
 5 offsite parking. You have to park this site,
 6 and we would hold you to that.

7 MR. ILIN: No problem.

8 MR. SKIBER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you, Steve.

10 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Have you
 11 approached any business owners in the nearby
 12 vicinity about offsite parking?

13 MR. ILIN: No.

14 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: No.

15 Well, I happen to have a differing
 16 view. I don't think this use is compatible
 17 based on what you have presented to us this
 18 evening. When our City incorporated in 1976,
 19 the principal architects of our zoning ordinance
 20 and the original cochair of our zoning board
 21 began working on a document that established a
 22 comprehensive plan regulation to serve our City,

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1 which is our zoning ordinance.

2 And the purpose of our ordinance
 3 includes but is not limited to these factors:
 4 It is intended to promote and protect the
 5 public, health, safety, morals and comfort and
 6 general welfare of the City. It is intended to
 7 ensure high standards of light, air, open space,
 8 in areas where people live and work. It is
 9 entitled to encourage the most appropriate use
 10 of land throughout the City to conserve and
 11 enhance the value of land and buildings, to
 12 avoid undue concentration of the population, to
 13 foster a rational pattern of land use,
 14 relationships between residential and
 15 nonresidential uses and to protect residential
 16 business and industrial areas alike from harmful
 17 encroachment from incompatible uses and ensuring
 18 that land allocated to impacting uses shall not
 19 be usurped by other inappropriate uses.

20 I am fortunate enough to have a
 21 relationship with one of the original architects
 22 of our zoning ordinance and first cochair of our

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1 zoning board, who chaired along with my
2 grandfather. And his name is Ken Black.
3 Unfortunately Ken Black was not able to attend
4 the meeting tonight due to health issues. But
5 he told me, and this is quote from Ken, We did
6 everything we could to stop car repair shops and
7 used car lots in the City. We didn't want them
8 period. Afterall, it was the intent of these
9 founding founders to create an ordinance to
10 protect the single-family residential uses.

11 The definition of a B-1, and this
12 is a district where you are now proposing that
13 auto sales and auto repair be a special use, not
14 just on this property but in all B-1 districts,
15 the definition of B-1 states that the B-1 retail
16 business district is intended to provide for the
17 convenient shopping of persons residing in
18 adjacent residential areas and to permit such
19 uses as are necessary to satisfy most of the
20 basic shopping needs, which occur daily or
21 frequently, and so require shopping facilities
22 in relative proximity to places of residents.

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1 Also allowed are compatible uses
2 that while not visited frequently would be
3 desirable if located in close proximity to
4 potential users. The district is normally
5 located on primary and secondary thoroughfares,
6 is relative small in size, and has bulk
7 standards that provide for compatibility with
8 residential uses. There are currently 122
9 permitted retail business uses in a B-1.

10 I would like to think that these
11 uses were selected because they satisfied the
12 definition of a B-1 district. If you look at
13 our current B-1 district in Prospect Heights you
14 would notice that all of these uses meet the
15 definition with the exception of the legal
16 existing nonconforming uses, uses that were
17 grandfathered and zoned under Cook County zoning
18 ordinance before our City's incorporation.

19 I have a small copy of our zoning
20 map here. But I have highlighted all the B-1
21 districts in yellow. Actually, not all of them
22 but most of them. Our current B-1 districts are

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1 home to Walgreens, that property used to have a
2 bakery, City hall, a barber shop, a paint and
3 wallpaper store, and a butcher shop. It also at
4 one time served as our temporary library and
5 police station. Another B-1 district is home to
6 a Deli 4 You grocery store, a dentist, a
7 florist, a chiropractor, insurance sales, and
8 cleaners are also businesses that are in another
9 B-1 zoned district. Fast food, Chinese and
10 Mexican restaurants are also uses that are
11 allowed in a B-1 district. These are all near
12 residential uses. All of these B-1 districts
13 are surrounded by single-family residential
14 homes.

15 A B-1 district was never intended
16 to allow auto sales or auto repair as both of
17 these uses are not allowed or permitted as a
18 Special Use in a B-1. We currently only allow
19 auto sales as a Special Use in a B-2a, B-2, and
20 a B-3. And we allow auto repair as a Permitted
21 Use in B-3 and a special use in a B-2a and a
22 B-2. There is a reason for this. There is a

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1 reason why we do not allow these uses in a B-1
2 because they are close to residential homes.

3 I feel that to vote in favor of a
4 text amendment this evening to allow these uses
5 in all B-1 districts would, in effect, negate
6 the intent of our ordinance. And as far as the
7 auto use argument goes, to argue that the
8 property in question should receive a Special
9 Use to allow auto sales and auto repair due to
10 the fact that there are two nearby auto uses is
11 illogical. Both Dave's Auto and NAPA are legal
12 existing nonconforming uses to the B-1 district.
13 The City never allowed them a special use permit
14 to operate these businesses. Rather, they were
15 grandfathered at the time of our City's
16 incorporation, thus, there was never intent by
17 the City to allow these uses.

18 When Dave purchased his property in
19 1978, it was an existing gas station and auto
20 repair business owned by Ray Elias. In fact,
21 this use can be dated back to 1957. Although
22 Dave received a variance to expand his business

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1 on the property he currently owns in 1996, he
 2 never did it.

3 NAPA was originally a Marathon Gas
 4 station, which later became Quality Discount
 5 Auto and is now NAPA. This, too, is an existing
 6 legal nonconforming use. When NAPA established
 7 itself in the 1980s, the zoning board and City
 8 Council took strict effort to ensure they did
 9 not impact the neighboring residential
 10 negatively. They were restricted from
 11 performing auto repair including repairing autos
 12 in the parking lot, forced to direct fencing to
 13 provide trash enclosures. So clearly, it's been
 14 the intent of the City based on decisions they
 15 made in the past to protect the residences. If
 16 something is grandfathered, that doesn't mean
 17 that the City allowed it. It was zoned under
 18 Cook County. It was there when the City
 19 incorporated.

20 I do not feel that your use is
 21 compatible in any way in a B-1 district. It's
 22 surrounded by residential areas. This is not a

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1 major commercial thoroughfare. And most
 2 importantly, there are other areas in this City
 3 which is a B-3 and a B-2a where you are more
 4 than welcome to have a used auto sales and an
 5 auto repair business. We currently have 122
 6 other uses available at this location. The
 7 economy is what it is. It's not good. We have
 8 got vacancies everywhere, not just this
 9 building. We have changed our zoning already to
 10 try to accommodate these businesses. They are
 11 not coming. I really think this would be a huge
 12 disservice to our City and to the residents who
 13 live near here to approve this evening.

14 I'm not comfortable with the
 15 parking situation either; even if this were a
 16 great idea, I think it's still an issue. And I
 17 don't think you were able to provide enough
 18 clarification on how you could accommodate all
 19 of these vehicles.

20 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you, Corrinne.
 21 Is there anyone else on the board that would
 22 like to speak to this case at this time?

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1 COMMISSIONER TAMMEN: Yes. Just one
 2 comment since we had quite a discussion on the
 3 parking. Steve has looked at it. And it looks
 4 like there are 21, it could accommodate 21
 5 parking spots, one of which is the handicap.
 6 And so it's possible that he could park maybe up
 7 to 10 cars outside for repair or sale and have 4
 8 spots for the customers and 6 for employees, so
 9 it's tight.

10 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Is the owner of the
 11 property here?

12 MR. PINTO: Yes.

13 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Would you please
 14 step up to the podium, please.

15 Could you state your name and
 16 address for the record.

17 MR. PINTO: My name is Antonio Pinto,
 18 and my address is 926 South Cumberland.

19 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Raise your right
 20 hand.

21 (Mr. Pinto sworn.)

22 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Could you explain to

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1 us tonight what your intention with regard to a
 2 leasing agreement with petitioner is.

3 MR. PINTO: Mr. -- John, he came by me
 4 with the intentions to explain to me he's been
 5 selling cars for all his life and many, many
 6 years and propose me to want to rent the
 7 property for the purpose to sell cars from the
 8 areas and to repair for customers in the back;
 9 and I support it.

10 I inquire first about where he was
 11 working when he's done his business so far. And
 12 after talking many times with them, his partner,
 13 too, we talk. We have a few meetings. We must
 14 met already for like maybe 30 times, we talk and
 15 talk it over. And they look like they know what
 16 they doing it. I support them. I say, Do you
 17 think you can handle it, you can do it,
 18 something that will work for you guys, and I
 19 just support it.

20 One thing I just want to add that
 21 on behalf of, to maybe -- You know, myself,
 22 too, I purchase the property without inquiring

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1 too much. And I need it for my business
2 originally. And when I purchased, the time went
3 by too fast and I run out of money and the
4 economy went bad, and I didn't find it easy to
5 open up a business over here. I move on.

6 And then Sarpino's Pizza came
7 around. There was a beautiful opportunity to
8 have a beautiful building, a new one. It was
9 torn down for some reason. I feel like the
10 gentleman over here, come over here to want to
11 invest. I know you guys concerned about the
12 property. Me, too. I improved the property.
13 Even if I lost on, so 40 years I keep paying the
14 mortgage and tax. And that's spend a lot of
15 money for improvement, to make it look better
16 with hopes maybe to do something with. I know
17 it's hard for me to do anything now. Sarpino's
18 tried, it was hard for them.

19 Now we have a gentleman over here,
20 he's proposing to come and do business in
21 Prospect Heights. And personally, I think he
22 wants -- He believe in his self and he don't

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1 want to do nothing illegal. He wants to do
2 something, follow the rules, whatever the City
3 propose to them, I think so.

4 Me, personally, I support it.
5 That's I think he's an adult, he's a grown man,
6 and his partner, too, they want to invest the
7 money. Anybody want to come and invest in the
8 City, come over here, I think he should be
9 honored, better than discouraging until they do
10 an illegal business.

11 Personally, I respect you talking,
12 you protecting the village. But sometimes, you
13 know, I get discouraged. I come over here
14 tonight, I was intentioned to not coming.
15 Because I know coming over tonight it was going
16 to pick a little more of my heart to see. I
17 understand it is a business corner. I
18 understand, but we want to do something with
19 that corner. We cannot keep that corner. It
20 cost me my life savings. I made a mistake and
21 my wife every night she keep repeating me the
22 same things, Why you done that without

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1 researching.
2 And unfortunately, it's happening,
3 I'm here. My life savings are gone. I'm a
4 small business owner. I tried the business.
5 And now the gentleman he wants to do business.
6 With hopes maybe he and I going to -- Like I
7 say, I'm concerned for him because I don't want
8 him to fell in limbo the way I fell in limbo.
9 Now, I have nothing else to say. That's my --

10 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Do you currently
11 have a lease agreement in place with the
12 petitioner?

13 MR. PINTO: Yes. We have an agreement.
14 I support them. I try to help them out the best
15 I could to give them some free month rental to
16 start the business, and we come to a bunch of an
17 agreement with leasing. And after we
18 discussing, you know, pretty much.

19 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: So you have come to
20 an agreement on a lease?

21 MR. PINTO: Yes. Yes.

22 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Well, thank you very

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1 much.

2 MR. PINTO: You are welcome. Thank
3 you.

4 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Okay. At this time,
5 if there are no more questions or comments from
6 the commissioners right now, then I'm going to
7 open it up to residents' comments.

8 And Mr. Madden, if you would like
9 to go first. Please raise your right hand.

10 (Mr. Madden sworn.)

11 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Please state your
12 name and address for the record.

13 MR. MADDEN: My name is Edward Madden,
14 611 Elmhurst Road here in Prospect Heights.

15 Well, first of all, my heart goes
16 out to Mr. Pinto regarding the circumstances
17 about his building. As somebody who lives
18 nearby, I must say I truly appreciate the effort
19 that you made to improve that building with the
20 facade work. It is a night and day difference
21 from how it looked before.

22 With that said, I also want to make

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1 it clear to the board that these conditions with
2 that building should not be a consideration for
3 the application. I was somewhat confused about
4 the application as to exactly which business
5 entity was applying. In the packet it did
6 mentioned Ilin Motors, but then I believe the
7 entity actually is Advance Motor Sales and
8 Repair, Inc.

9 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: It is.

10 MR. MADDEN: And so if I understand it
11 correctly at this point, Mr. Ilin, you are not
12 an owner of the property, nor are you a partial
13 owner. At this point you would be a lessee,
14 right?

15 MR. ILIN: Okay.

16 MR. MADDEN: Okay. I do want to point
17 out in a zoning this is Title 5, Chapter
18 10-10-C -- I'm sorry -- 10-B.

19 It indicates that at the initiation
20 of map and text amendments, tax amendments may
21 be proposed in writing by the City Council, the
22 Plan/Zoning Board of Appeals, any person having

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1 a proprietary interest in the property, or any
2 interested citizen in the City.

3 And by reading that, it would
4 indicate that you are none of those, proprietary
5 interest by definition is an ownership interest,
6 either full or partial. It's not a financial
7 interest in the property. It is ownership.

8 Additionally to you, do you have
9 any affiliation at this point with any type of
10 new car dealership; or is it strictly used car
11 sales?

12 MR. ILIN: Used cars.

13 MR. MADDEN: Also in the application
14 you indicate the entity is Advance Motor Sales
15 and Repair, Inc.

16 With that Inc., does that mean you
17 are incorporated?

18 MR. ILIN: Yes.

19 MR. MADDEN: Here in Illinois?

20 MR. ILIN: Yes.

21 MR. MADDEN: I would like to enter into
22 the record a printout from the Secretary of

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1 State's office showing that there is no
2 corporate entity by that name or any similar
3 name.

4 Also I wish to address the
5 standards that are necessary for any text
6 amendments to be recommended by the zoning
7 board. Again, this goes back to Title 5,
8 Chapter 10-10-C of the Prospect Heights Zoning
9 Code. It states that no map or text amendment
10 shall be recommended by the Plan/Zoning Board of
11 Appeals unless said Board shall find:

12 And under No. 1 it indicates that
13 the net impact of the proposed amendment, if
14 granted, will be beneficial to the entire
15 community, it will not be harmful to the local
16 area in particular. I would argue that this
17 proposal would be very harmful to the immediate
18 area in that there would be no net value after
19 factoring whatever tax revenue is generated
20 minus the negligent image that that would bring
21 to our neighborhood.

22 Under No. 2, the standard indicates

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1 that a need exist for the general type of use
2 proposed and that the specific proposal will,
3 indeed, satisfy it more closely than the other
4 possible uses. I just would like the record to
5 reflect that I didn't hear any testimony
6 satisfying that requirement tonight.

7 Under No. 3, the Standard sites
8 that the use proposed is compatible with the
9 current Comprehensive Land Use Plan of the City
10 of Prospect Heights in effect on the date of the
11 application. Again, if the record could please
12 reflect that I didn't hear any testimony
13 reflecting that it met that requirement.

14 Under No. 4, the standard required
15 is that the proposed use is compatible and
16 harmonious with uses in the surrounding areas.
17 And while at first glance it appears that would
18 be the case with both NAPA and Dave's Auto, I
19 would like to mirror the one Commissioner's
20 comments that because these properties are
21 nonconforming that really for the purposes of
22 the zoning amendment those shouldn't be

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1 considered at all because they are
2 nonconforming. They are, in fact, grandfathered
3 in. Even the site itself, which was formerly an
4 auto parts store, that business has been gone
5 for many, many years, that was nonconforming.

6 And my understanding is when you
7 have a nonconforming property, once that
8 operation or that business ceases, the
9 nonconformity or the use, the previous use of
10 that property, ceases as well. Also, I would
11 like to point out that neither NAPA or Dave's
12 Auto are used car operations.

13 Under standard No. 5, this deals
14 with the flood plain, whether property is in the
15 flood plain. It appears that it does meet that
16 standard. You know, it could be incorrect.

17 But I believe in this case it meets
18 one of the five standards. But again, for a
19 recommendation of approval the proposal really
20 needs to meet all of the standards.

21 Irregardless, the proposal really
22 just has too many problems. It's a bad location

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1 for that type of business. The setup, the use,
2 we talked about the parking. Nobody mentioned
3 about the noise. I know used car sales aren't
4 really noisy but repairs can be very, very
5 noisy. Even the previous developer had
6 indicated that that intersection was one of the
7 areas that welcomes people to Prospect Heights.

8 I don't envision a used car lot as
9 the way to welcome people to our City,
10 particularly to our neighborhood. Additionally,
11 this could set a very dangerous precedent for
12 other used car lots in our neighborhood and
13 throughout the City. Because this is a text
14 amendment that would amend all B-1 districts, it
15 will apply Citywide. Additionally, I know
16 personally in speaking with Dave -- I forget his
17 last name -- from Dave's Auto, if this were to
18 pass, he is already poised to submit a similar
19 application for used car sales there.

20 And I, quite frankly, wouldn't
21 blame him. I mean he needs to compete. Mexico
22 Muffler right up the street, what would stop it

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1 from there? I mean literally this could almost
2 overnight create a bit of a used car row much
3 like the Rand Road corridor in Palatine. If you
4 are familiar with it, that area looks terrible.
5 It's rundown. It's actually kind of seedy, and
6 it's definitely an eyesore.

7 This proposal would similarly
8 negatively impact our neighborhood. I can just
9 imagine telling my friends that in giving
10 directions to my home, well, it's easy to find
11 it, it's just five doors south from the "Bad
12 Credit Okay, We Finance Everyone" signs. And
13 while I don't have any reason to believe that
14 that's what the applicant is proposing, I really
15 believe that that is something that could
16 seriously develop over time at that location and
17 other ones in town.

18 You know, the proposal itself is
19 not even affiliated with a new car dealership.
20 If the applicant -- I'm sorry. I also want to
21 note, you know, there was the previous proposal
22 for Sarpino's Pizza there. As area neighbors,

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1 we understand that's a commercial property. We
2 want to see a commercial use going in there. We
3 are actually very supportive of Sarpino's
4 proposal, and we are very sorry to see that fall
5 through. But the used car end is not it.

6 I would like to show you, you know,
7 the applicant indicates his affiliation with
8 Global Auto. I have some pictures of the site
9 that I would like to submit into the record that
10 shows the facility as a -- what we would
11 envision as a typical used car lot, and it's not
12 very appealing.

13 And also, I would hope that the
14 board itself would not want to be known as a
15 board that brought used car sales particularly
16 to ward 4 and especially to our residential
17 neighborhood. Thank you very much for your
18 time.

19 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you.

20 Mr. Dalessandro?

21 MR. DALESSANDRO: Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: State your name and

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1 address for the record and spell your last name.

2 MR. DALESSANDRO: Patrick Dalessandro,
3 610 North Maple Street in Prospect Heights.
4 Dalessandro, D-a-l-e-s-s-a-n-d-r-o.

5 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Raise your right
6 hand.

7 (Mr. Dalessandro sworn.)

8 MR. DALESSANDRO: Yes, I do.

9 You know, I might not be as
10 eloquent as my neighbor, Mr. Madden. And I was
11 quite impressed with that; and I have beers with
12 him all the time, and it never comes out that
13 way. But at any rate, I speak against this for
14 several reasons.

15 I am a licensed real estate broker
16 in the State of Illinois, and I have a
17 construction management certificate, graduate
18 degree in real estate finance, have owned my own
19 business for 37 years, and have been in the real
20 estate business for 39 years. I speak before
21 many different city councils with regard to
22 clients that want zoning changes or want some

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1 special consideration for uses.

2 In the vernacular, the only thing I
3 can say here is that one of my colleagues south
4 of I-80 down in Belleville, Illinois, would
5 probably say we are trying to stick ten pounds
6 of potatoes in a five-pound bag; and it's just
7 not going to work. Okay? There is too many
8 concerns that have to be there.

9 One thing, I have a question of the
10 petitioner. Car sales are prohibited on, is it
11 Sundays in Illinois; is that correct? Is that
12 correct?

13 MR. ILIN: Yes.

14 MR. DALESSANDRO: So you can't sell
15 cars on Sunday?

16 MR. ILIN: No.

17 MR. DALESSANDRO: Are you allowed to
18 work on cars on Sunday?

19 MR. ILIN: Actually, I'm not working on
20 cars on Sundays. I'm with my family on Sundays.
21 I will be closed on Sundays.

22 MR. DALESSANDRO: So Sundays this

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1 wouldn't apply. That was just something I was
2 wondering about. And I'm sure that the City of
3 Prospect Heights, in deference to Miss Dash,
4 certainly cannot be concerned about \$30 on a
5 \$3,000 sale or \$50 on a \$5,000 sale. The amount
6 of tax revenue that will be generated by this
7 for the City is probably insignificant at best.
8 So I mean it's there for something, but I mean
9 it's not going to be a lot. I don't think
10 that's the reason this should be granted. There
11 are many uses there.

12 And also in deference to Mr. Pinto,
13 I'm a real estate broker. I own a lot of
14 properties in and around the City of Chicago,
15 suburbs. I have lived in Prospect Heights since
16 1977. I, too, have had problems. I have lost a
17 lot of money and a lot of equity in some of the
18 properties I own. And I would also offer this,
19 that the property is not vacant because of its
20 improper location or its structure or size or
21 deficiencies. It is vacant as a function of the
22 market. Okay? We have properties in much

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1 better locations. 2006 is when the market
2 started to crash, and that's about seven years
3 now or going on seven years coming up here. And
4 it's going to continue to stay back.

5 And whatever lease arrangement
6 Mr. Pinto has with Mr. Ilin, if he's not
7 successful in his business of selling used cars
8 and repairing them -- okay? -- you are going to
9 have another vacant site with some other
10 problems that are there. All right?

11 And there are some other things.
12 Okay? Luxury cars, first of all, when a person
13 buys a luxury vehicle, usually it's a
14 destination site. Someone goes to a Mercedes
15 Benz dealership or a BMW dealership or a
16 Land Rover or a Lexus or something of that
17 nature, they don't go to a used car lot where
18 there are cars ranging from 3,000, 1,000, 2,000
19 to \$15,000 or whatever the site may carry.
20 Okay?

21 Those things are not normal.
22 Because if you want to go buy one of those cars,

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1 you are going to want to make sure it's
2 certified that it's got a longer warranty and
3 other items that go along with it with the
4 proper service. And we also know that many of
5 the mechanics that work in the smaller shops
6 come and go quickly, and they may not be
7 certified for luxury cars or the computers and
8 everything else today.

9 There are better streets in
10 Prospect Heights where the traffic would be
11 better. I don't think that this is the site for
12 this. I could be wrong because the only thing I
13 could think of is to have something that's
14 successful there. You know, something that
15 would be quality in my opinion would be a
16 cabinet and flooring store, decorating store,
17 paint store, something of that nature would be
18 very nice there I think. And there is other
19 uses that could be there.

20 Getting back to my thought process,
21 and there was a question that I did have.
22 Mr. Ilin, are you going to repair vehicles that

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1 have been in accidents that may get towed to
2 you?

3 MR. ILIN: No.

4 MR. DALESSANDRO: You are not going to
5 do that. Is there any body-and-fender work done
6 there?

7 MR. ILIN: Not at the moment.

8 MR. DALESSANDRO: Not at the moment.
9 Thank you.

10 So I guess in conclusion I just
11 want to say to you, and I live kind of on a
12 45-degree angle, probably enough distance from
13 having a problem with this, other than the
14 lighting and the congestion. But it's not going
15 to work, trust me. I know what's going on in
16 this market. I live it every day.

17 Granted, real estate was a
18 wonderful thing to be invested in for years and
19 from the Great Depression on until 2006 it just
20 went up. It's now making its corrections
21 because of a lot of mistakes that have been
22 made. Okay? We all are suffering. It's not

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1 just indigenous to people that are not in the
2 business because I have some lost equity in a
3 lot of properties. But I believe that this will
4 not work properly there, I think it's going to
5 be very congested. I think that if you look in
6 Mount Prospect at the northwest corner of River
7 and Euclid, you will see the Smile auto used car
8 dealership that's right on the corner there next
9 to the old Euclid video, and you will see how
10 congested that is. I have talked to a couple of
11 the people that live adjacent to that, and they
12 are very dissatisfied with it.

13 I think that's about it. Thank you
14 so much for the opportunity, for listening.

15 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you.

16 Miss Vole, please state your name
17 and address for the record and spell your last
18 name.

19 MS. VOLE: Sure. My name is Dolly
20 Vole, V--as in Victor--o-l-e. I am representing
21 7 East Palatine Road, which is my property.

22 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Raise your right

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1 hand.

2 (Ms. Vole sworn.)

3 MS. VOLE: I do.

4 Thank you very much for having this
5 meeting this evening. I want to first state
6 that I am not in favor of this. My home is at
7 minimum -- or I should say maximum 40 feet away
8 from the building structure of this property,
9 which has a big bay door that would open every
10 time they are doing repairs and have to bring a
11 car in and out, which would echo across like it
12 did while they were working on the outside of
13 the structure, which was quite loud. They were
14 working on it with the door open. And then they
15 were kind enough to bring the equipment inside
16 and work on it on the inside. But there was no
17 sound protection inside that building, which
18 makes it echo and come outside.

19 So right there tells me that if you
20 are going to have auto repair in the back of the
21 building, which is where it would be, because
22 the show room would be in the front 2400 square

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1 feet, every time they open the door, the sound
2 would just vibrate out to the house. My home
3 has a living room window right there on the
4 corner side and then on the front, both. There
5 is two windows there and then on the side. And
6 then on top is a bedroom, and then there is a
7 bedroom window on the front and side.

8 So what makes it difficult is that
9 no one will be able to sleep in that room, you
10 are not going to be able to watch TV in the day,
11 especially on a Saturday if they are working.
12 The quality of life in living in that home is
13 not going to be very substantial due to the fact
14 of the noise level that would be coming from
15 this building.

16 If, you know, I'm just a little
17 confused because one minute they are having an
18 auto repair, that they are only going to repair
19 cars of customers. And then if someone refers
20 someone, then they will repair their car. So
21 basically it's going to be auto repair. So it's
22 not just for their customers. It would be for

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1 anybody that comes in and brings in a vehicle to
2 be repaired.

3 And auto repair, minor, I just went
4 through a Special Use Permit in another
5 municipality. Minor, it's not auto body repair.
6 It's not replacing an engine. It's minor. So I
7 would hope that stipulation should this pass be
8 put in place that restrict it to minor. Whether
9 it is a computer board, whether it is an oil
10 change, whether, you know, even to a point where
11 tires are being replaced, you still have the air
12 guns that are going off. And you drive by any
13 of these tire repair shops, you hear that sound
14 echoing across the intersection.

15 So I think that the noise itself,
16 okay, I won't be able to use my patio on the
17 weekends if they are doing repairs, which is
18 just right there. So the impact is quite
19 substantial.

20 Concern also is the placement of
21 the dumpster, if the dumpster is going to be
22 placed, you know, in the rear. Because it

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1 wasn't shown to us exactly where it's going to
2 be. But if it's normally placed in the rear of
3 the building where prior businesses have had it,
4 the garbage truck comes early in the morning,
5 5 o'clock in the morning.

6 I mean Steve can tell you how many
7 times I call, that they would sit there and wait
8 for, you know, 6 o'clock or 7 o'clock to roll
9 around or dump it at 5:00 and leave. Deliveries
10 being delivered to the back of the building, so
11 if they were having auto parts, they are going
12 to have early auto part delivery or if they have
13 a truckload of vehicles being dropped off. I
14 mean when you go to an auction, you are buying
15 maybe five to ten vehicles, and you have got a
16 hauler that's coming through to drop off those
17 vehicles. And if he's not open, they are
18 sitting on Palatine Road until 8 o'clock in the
19 morning to discharge the cars.

20 So once again there are a lot of
21 things that I don't think are being addressed or
22 even concern raised that will effect me as a

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1 homeowner.

2 The other concern also is the size
3 of the property. The size of the property is
4 less than a quarter of an acre. Green space is
5 nonexistent between my home and their home.
6 It's from their property or to the home on the
7 south side of it, the only green space is the
8 patch that IDOT left along the north and the
9 west side.

10 And if, in fact, you are going to
11 allow parking along the north side, I was told
12 that there were going to be bay doors installed
13 on that side so they wouldn't be using that back
14 other than to take cars off from the showroom.
15 So, you know, there doesn't seem to be a
16 consistent plan.

17 And I know that, you know, through
18 listening to what's going on, you know, when
19 Quality Auto was there and NAPA was across the
20 street, you know, no vehicles were allowed to be
21 repaired on either site. So to say now because
22 Quality Auto is no longer there you are going to

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1 allow full blown auto repair is kind of an
 2 insult to NAPA across the street that is
 3 restricted from any auto repair. And Dave's
 4 Auto, which is not abutting up to any
 5 residential. Their building literally, I think
 6 their building is maybe 100 feet away from the
 7 living structure because the garage is next to
 8 it, and then they have the park district behind
 9 them. They don't have a home 40 feet away from
 10 where they are doing the work.

11 So it's a big difference when you
 12 say, well, there is automotive use on other
 13 corners. Well, that doesn't make it right.
 14 It's still a residential area. And you know,
 15 unfortunately in this community we have a NIMBY
 16 type of atmosphere where, you know, we had it
 17 for Lake Claire and especially areas where they
 18 wanted water but nobody wanted the water tower
 19 at St. Alphonsus, so that was nixed.

20 Then you have it, you know, the
 21 church is going to be expanding; but nobody in
 22 the area wanted it expanded because they didn't

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1 want the traffic. So those were things that
 2 would be easy and help the community. And this
 3 is something that has a negative impact. And
 4 there doesn't seem to be that much concern about
 5 the residents.

6 The other issue is the text
 7 amendment. Once again, the individual who is
 8 requesting this doesn't have proprietary
 9 interest. So if, in fact, this is a text
 10 amendment that's affecting all B-1, why aren't
 11 other areas being noticed, other residents in
 12 the B-1 areas, that this is a change also to
 13 their area? Because if you are changing all
 14 B-1s, nobody else is aware of it except for us
 15 who have gotten a notice about this specific
 16 business. I find that to be an error. If we
 17 are trying to inform the residents and trying to
 18 protect the residents why haven't they been
 19 informed?

20 You know, also, too, this kind of
 21 reminds me of spot zoning. You know, it's okay
 22 here because we want to allow it here, but it's

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1 not okay over there. We have many vacant
 2 properties. We have Wolf and Camp McDonald
 3 that's vacant. You know, that's not next to any
 4 residential. It's got the railroad tracks in
 5 between it. I mean if you are looking to rezone
 6 and looking to relocate into Prospect Heights
 7 and open a business, why isn't that being
 8 considered?

9 You are looking at the old Indian
 10 motorcycle shop may not be in Prospect Heights.
 11 But once again, it's conducive to the used car
 12 lot. You have a whole big parking lot, repair
 13 shop. It's already designed for that. I think
 14 that we are forgetting about what we are really
 15 doing when we put a used car lot. Ringa is not
 16 next to a residential area. It's on Rand Road.
 17 There is no residential next to it. When you
 18 are talking about the used car lot that was on
 19 Milwaukee Avenue, there is no residential next
 20 to it. We would be setting a precedent letting
 21 people know they can open a used car lot right
 22 next to a house. They might as well take a

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1 house and zone that a used car lot. We see it
 2 all the time, but I don't think that's what
 3 Prospect Heights is trying to look for.

4 In getting back to, you know, the
 5 individual, are we making modifications to the
 6 building, are we not making modifications to the
 7 building. If fencing is a concern, you have to
 8 make modifications. There is going to have to
 9 be venting out of the building somewhere. When
 10 you are talk about carbon monoxide, are they
 11 going to vent it out right into my house; right?
 12 You know, which one is it?

13 So I think that there are many
 14 concerns that I have that really aren't being
 15 addressed tonight that seems like if we are
 16 moving forward, we are moving forward because
 17 for the wrong reason it might bring us some
 18 extra money. And Prospect Heights needs the
 19 money. But at what cost?

20 And the impact that it's going to
 21 have is, yeah, maybe I might have 10 cars, maybe
 22 15, I'm going to have them in the showroom. How

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1 are you going to get them in and out if you are
 2 going through the repair shop and they are busy?
 3 And then like I think Mr. Wyatt
 4 stated, you know, it's too late when you have to
 5 start jockeying cars around to get customers in
 6 the parking lot because you have used cars
 7 sitting outside along one side. I just find
 8 this to be not a conducive use. There is 122
 9 other uses in our code that would be allowed in
 10 this building.
 11 Just like Sarpino's came forward,
 12 that zoning was approved. So by them walking
 13 away did not make it not approved. So they
 14 could have moved in there, they could have tore
 15 down the building and redid it. They chose not
 16 to do that. So to say that the City lost or did
 17 not approve the zoning, you know, they were
 18 approved to go in there. Just like any other
 19 business that would be conducive for the use
 20 whether it is a restaurant or a service business
 21 such as real estate or something of that nature.
 22 Use one of those. Don't open it up to other

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1 properties that are zoned B-1 for used car and
 2 repair. Thank you.
 3 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you, Ms. Vole.
 4 I would like our City attorney to
 5 address the point that has been brought up twice
 6 regarding proprietary interest here.
 7 MR. YEHL: Yes. There is a point, what
 8 is called priority interest, the individual who
 9 submitted the application does have a
 10 proprietary interest in the property based on
 11 his lease agreement, protect -- A proprietary
 12 interest is an exclusive use of the property he
 13 has with the lease agreement.
 14 Furthermore, the owner of the
 15 property has stood up today under testimony to
 16 both join in the application, fully support it,
 17 so his approval and joining in on the
 18 application also gives the petitioner
 19 proprietary interest in the property.
 20 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you.
 21 MR. LANDL: Karl Landl.
 22 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Please state your

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1 name and address for the record and spell your
 2 last name.
 3 MR. LANDL: Karl Landl, 6 West Ridge
 4 Avenue, Prospect Heights.
 5 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Would you spell your
 6 last name, please.
 7 MR. LANDL: L-a-n-d-l.
 8 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Raise your right
 9 hand.
 10 (Mr. Landl sworn.)
 11 MR. LANDL: I do.
 12 Simply said, I would like to be put
 13 on record that I'm against this proposal.
 14 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you. Are
 15 there any other residents that would like to
 16 comment?
 17 Please state your name and address
 18 for the record and spell your last name.
 19 MR. ROBERTSON: Steve Roberson,
 20 703 Elmhurst Road in Prospect Heights.
 21 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Please spell your
 22 last name.

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1 THE WITNESS: R-o-b-e-r-s-o-n.
 2 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Raise your right
 3 hand.
 4 (Witness sworn.)
 5 MR. ROBERSON: Absolutely.
 6 I oppose it. I don't like it. I
 7 don't want it there. It seems to be, like my
 8 daughter would say, we had an above-ground pool
 9 and she wanted me to go to Sea World and buy a
 10 whale and put it in the pool, it doesn't fit.
 11 When they had the pizzeria, that was granted.
 12 We talked to the owners, we were all for it. It
 13 was great. We couldn't wait for something to go
 14 in that spot on that corner because it's finally
 15 getting someone in there finally, and now they
 16 want to bring a car lot.
 17 I would be four houses down from
 18 that unit. And my concern is that if they have
 19 that lot there, my concern is what's going to
 20 happen next door? Are they going to -- The
 21 property next door, because we have mechanics
 22 working out at that house, we have problems with

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1 that house next door from that. And there was a
2 lot of noise coming from that, too. My concern
3 is they get this unit and all of a sudden, you
4 know, we don't know what that property is going
5 to happen next door to it. If it gets torn
6 down, is that going to expand and come my way?

7 So my concern is again, with the
8 noise and the things that are coming from that,
9 that's great, that they want to do that. But I
10 moved here for a reason, you know. And again,
11 having the noise and the things that were going
12 on there previously, like last year, from the
13 unit next to it. We have a mechanic in there
14 working out of the house, and it was noisy. You
15 know, what you do in your home, that's fine.
16 But it affects me so that's my concern about
17 dealing with the automotive. So I'm against it.

18 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you, sir.
19 Ma'am, go ahead.

20 Sorry. State your name and address.

21 MS. VALSKIS: My name is Margaret
22 Valskis. This is my husband, Bernie. We both

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1 oppose this proposal. We live at 705 Maple.

2 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Spell your last
3 name, please.

4 MS. VALSKIS: It's V-a-l-s-k-i-s.

5 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Raise your right
6 hand.

7 MS. VALSKIS: Yes, I do.

8 Last year we added onto our house.
9 We spent a lot of money because we wanted
10 addition to look nice and enhance the
11 neighborhood. We do not believe that this
12 business will enhance our neighborhood. 83 and
13 Palatine is the gateway to our neighborhood.
14 Anybody that comes and visits us will have to
15 drive past this used car lot, and I don't think
16 it will help our property values.

17 Maybe auto parts store but in that
18 business and that location, there were very
19 seldom cars parked on the north side. And they
20 would leave after they had purchased their auto
21 parts. It looks like there will be cars parked
22 on the north side 24/7, even on Thanksgiving

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1 when the relatives come for visit. And put
2 yourselves into our position, how would you like
3 that? It's just not the right business. I
4 think the business should go in there where the
5 cars leave and the business closes at night and
6 weekends so that's it.

7 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Ma'am, please state
8 your name and address for the record.

9 MS. GAYNOR: I'm Barbara Gaynor and I
10 live at 9 East Palatine Road.

11 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Will you spell your
12 last name, please.

13 MS. GAYNOR: G-a-y-n-o-r.

14 (Ms. Gaynor sworn.)

15 MS. GAYNOR: I do.

16 I live two doors east of the
17 proposed auto sales place, and I concur with all
18 the previous opinions. I think it would be an
19 eyesore. It is too large for the site. It just
20 doesn't fit. That's all I have to say. Thank
21 you.

22 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you. Is there

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1 anyone else that would like to speak to this
2 petition?

3 MS. STITAK: Yes.

4 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Please state your
5 name and address for the record.

6 MRS. STITAK: Yes. My name is Mary Ann
7 Stitak, S-t-i-t-a-k. 206 West Willow Road,
8 Prospect Heights.

9 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Raise your --

10 MS. STITAK: And I do swear to tell the
11 truth.

12 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Okay.

13 MS. STITAK: I sat on this board for 22
14 years. And this is one of the most pernicious
15 requests that I have ever heard. For someone to
16 try to change the entire ordinance for a special
17 permit when so many, many great minds went ahead
18 and prepared this ordinance with so much detail.

19 To change a B-1 for this occasion,
20 I think could be a travesty. We worked very,
21 very hard to keep our City a wonderful place, a
22 shining example in all of the northwest suburbs.

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1 We have half-acre lots. We have beautiful
2 homes. Everyone improves their homes. We stay
3 here. My goodness, I moved here in 1965 and
4 currently I'm in the middle of remodeling my
5 house. So I have not given up on Prospect
6 Heights.

7 I feel that all of the conversation
8 about working hours and use and how many cars
9 and parking and all this, I have heard this for
10 22 years. And it is important. I'm not saying
11 that it's not. But the important issue here
12 tonight has been a little bit overlooked, and
13 it's the changing of our ordinance. That is the
14 crux of this whole thing. That is where we
15 really have to stand fast and really decide is
16 this what we really want to do. Is this really
17 necessary?

18 Yes. I mean to allow another
19 business to come into town is always a wonderful
20 thing. Prospect Heights needs money. We all
21 do. I don't know if this is an appropriate
22 business or not, but the property is B-1. If

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1 you want to change the underlying property, then
2 you are talking a different issue. But to
3 change the ordinance to allow this type of
4 business in a B-1 I think is the real issue here
5 that we should all consider. Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you, sir.

7 Please state your name and address for the
8 record and spell your last name.

9 MR. ZEHR: Daniel Zehr, Z-e-h-r. 701
10 North Maple Street in Prospect Heights.

11 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Raise your right
12 hand.

13 (Mr. Zehr sworn.)

14 MR. ZEHR: I do.

15 I first moved to the northwest
16 suburbs in 1976. Me and my wife and our newborn
17 son bought a house in Wheeling. Within a few
18 months after driving through Prospect Heights,
19 we realized that's the town we want to live in
20 is Prospect Heights. So we bought a house. We
21 bought our first house. And now all these years
22 later we are still living here. We have raised

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1 our families here, as most of the couples out
2 here have. I would say the longevity of people
3 on our street is now maybe an average of 20, 30
4 years. I mean people love that neighborhood.
5 People love Prospect Heights.

6 And when I heard my neighbor back
7 there mention that that intersection is the
8 entrance to Prospect Heights, I started thinking
9 about it, yes, that probably is, that is
10 probably the spot where most people enter this
11 town, that intersection right there.

12 And then after that I started
13 thinking about the other towns in the area,
14 Wheeling. Think about Milwaukee Avenue and
15 Dundee. That's their entrance. What have they
16 done to that? How many used car lots did they
17 say, yeah, let's put some used car lots in
18 there, that would really impress people driving
19 in to our town? No. Those people, they
20 beautify their towns.

21 Think about downtown Arlington
22 Heights when they redeveloped that, how many

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1 used car lots did they bring in? None. Mount
2 Prospect, none.

3 Sir, you mentioned you tried some
4 other towns. Skokie, Morton Grove, Crystal
5 Lake. May I ask what happened with those towns?

6 MR. ILIN: Just we have to go through
7 the same process like we go tonight over here.

8 MR. ZEHR: What happened?

9 MR. ILIN: I never went because
10 actually to be honest with you I never want to
11 do this because all this negative situation,
12 what you guys are feeling here. This lady
13 mention pollution, all my cars. All my cars
14 where I would have on my lot, if I live all day
15 those cars to run will not produce that much
16 pollution like Palatine Road with all the
17 trucks. You have to take that into
18 consideration.

19 Noise will not be, will not be any
20 noise because it will be a garage. All the work
21 for repair shop will be work inside this. These
22 days are tools, more sophisticated with less

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1 noise, not like used to be 20 years ago.

2 And I don't see, I don't see why
3 you guys don't understand this place will do
4 something good for you and for me.

5 MR. ZEHR: I think you understand
6 exactly why you want that place because NAPA is
7 right across the street. You are going to get
8 all those people going in and buy auto parts at
9 NAPA, they are going to look across the street
10 and say, hey, look at that car over there.

11 What are they going to do, they are
12 going to run across the most dangerous
13 intersection in this whole area. That
14 intersection has more accidents in it than any
15 other intersection in this entire area.

16 I went to the police department
17 several months ago because my wife was sitting
18 there, she pulls through the light and it's very
19 confusing because Palatine Road blocks the
20 light, so a lot of people -- Almost all the
21 residents in there have almost been hit at that
22 intersection.

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1 What's going to happen when those
2 people start walking across from NAPA over to
3 see your cars and somebody dies? What's going
4 to happen?

5 That's a very, very dangerous
6 intersection. Who is going to be -- Nothing
7 was mentioned about test driving. Where are
8 these going --

9 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Just address the
10 board here. It's not a discussion between --

11 MR. ZEHR: Where are these cars going
12 to be test driven? Isn't that the first thing
13 you do? You go in and you say, I like that car.

14 He says, Okay, give me driver's
15 license. They give the driver's license. And
16 sometimes they ride with you, sometimes they
17 don't. They are going to be pulling out of that
18 intersection and going down our street. Our
19 street that already has so much trouble with
20 people cutting down it in the mornings? We have
21 got little kids playing next to the street, and
22 you have got cars running down there at 30 and

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1 40 miles an hour. Will the police department do
2 anything about that after all these complaints
3 to our citizens? No. So these are going to
4 have --

5 And a lot of people go to used car
6 lots. I know a lot about used cars. I grew up
7 in Peoria. When most people were taking their
8 kids to baseball games and most fathers were, my
9 father was taking me to used car lots. My dad
10 was a car lover. That's what I did almost every
11 Saturday and Sunday. And I loved it. I can
12 remember looking for a '60 Chevy for two years
13 because that's the car he wanted. We would go
14 from all the used car lots in Peoria, all the
15 used car lots in Pekin, and all the used car
16 lots in Bloomington looking for this car he
17 wanted so bad. And I remember those
18 neighborhoods, too. Those neighborhoods didn't
19 look like Prospect Heights. Excuse me. Those
20 neighborhoods looked like the gentleman
21 mentioned up here, Rand Road up here with the
22 strip joint on it. No other towns are bringing

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1 in used cars to try to beautify it. Why
2 would -- They are going exactly the opposite
3 direction. They want to get rid of used cars to
4 beautify the place.

5 I think I might have hit on
6 everything I wanted to mention here. Oh, I
7 drove to the building this afternoon. And there
8 was a tow truck in the back yard with a totally
9 smashed-up car. Is there some activity going on
10 there already? What was that tow truck doing
11 there? It was either picking up or dropping off
12 a totally wrecked car.

13 MR. PINTO: They park there all the
14 time. I can say everything else all here --

15 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: First of all, if you
16 are going to speak, please step up to the podium
17 again. And you have already been sworn in.

18 MR. PINTO: Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Just state your name
20 again.

21 MR. PINTO: My name is Antonio Pinto.
22 I live at 926 South Cumberland. One thing I

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1 want to mention, too. Yes. 926 South
 2 Cumberland. I live behind a gas station. They
 3 do fix cars. They have repairs for 20 years. I
 4 have been there. And they do drop occasional
 5 cars at night times. They do have an averaging
 6 like about -- It's a busy gas station. In the
 7 course of the day, the business opens up at
 8 8:30, 9 o'clock, over there nothing is
 9 happening. I have been over there for 20 years.
 10 I raised three kids over there.

11 I never did once call the police
 12 for any reason. There was kind of like a
 13 situation where all through this year I stay
 14 over, I don't move. Me, too, I love my City. I
 15 love the gas station. Some people question me,
 16 why you live right behind a gas station? It
 17 didn't bother me. I like the house, I choose.
 18 I knew there was a gas station when I bought it.
 19 I stayed there.

20 Unfortunately, you know what, we
 21 are here to try to do some business tonight. I
 22 feel like I get -- I kill somebody. I'm sorry.

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1 But there was a brand-new building one time.
 2 I want to say something else, I
 3 would like to say something else very important
 4 over here about not this Christmas, the past
 5 one, the past Christmas, I was in the store just
 6 to look here on Prospect Heights, 711, I was
 7 over there to look, to just to see for winter,
 8 make sure the water off and everything.

9 And she approaching me at the time.
 10 She was Mayor of the village, Prospect Heights.
 11 She approached me. And there was some other
 12 people with her. They were looking at the
 13 corner, and they was looking for improvement in
 14 the corner. And she introduced herself.

15 And unfortunately, it was a very
 16 bad moment for me because not only I lost so
 17 much money, this property, it was right after
 18 Sarpino's Pizza walked away. For one hour it
 19 was denied it, to Sarpino, that's when they
 20 walked away from the franchise.

21 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Please step up to
 22 the podium.

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1 MR. PINTO: They have a lot of areas
 2 where the high -- You know, Northbrook, Oak
 3 Brook, things that neighbors to where -- not
 4 cheap neighbors basically. And they tell them
 5 we have everywhere 2 o'clock, we want to stay
 6 open because we are a franchise. And they pass
 7 an ordinance they can only stay open till
 8 1 o'clock, somebody passed the ordinance. And
 9 they refused the license for one hour. Now,
 10 there was a good way to improve the corner have
 11 a brand-new building built 50, \$60,000 tax a
 12 year for the building, plus more tax they
 13 generate, plus they would employ peoples. I
 14 think over here --

15 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: But that is over,
 16 sir. And we are talking about the case that's
 17 in front of us tonight. That's history and I
 18 know that.

19 MR. PINTO: But I want to just bring
 20 back right now how the gentlemen over, even
 21 myself, to be here. We feel like we are getting
 22 incriminated by something. We are taxpayers.

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1 It's a free country. I understand they have to
 2 change in zoning and everything. The gentleman,
 3 they propose the business, honest business, to
 4 be here. It's a business with the City of
 5 Prospect Heights.

6 At the second meeting I came at
 7 this over here, and every time I come over here
 8 I see some very hostile people to treating us
 9 like we are criminals. We are not criminals.
 10 We are just peoples, we save up our money to do
 11 some business here. I think it's way wrong
 12 where right now you tell us, you want us to do
 13 business, otherwise we have to go. I can't take
 14 it anymore to listen to those about this, it's
 15 tedious. I know you want to save your house,
 16 you want to save everything. We don't come to
 17 propose nothing to bring crime, nothing. We
 18 want to just to try to do something with the
 19 corner. That corner has been empty. I spent
 20 more money to remodel, to beautify the place.

21 And now, what do you guys want at
 22 that corner? What do you want to do with it?

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1 MS. VALSKIS: That busy, the corner --
 2 MR. PINTO: I approach myself hundreds
 3 of businesses, because I can't afford anymore to
 4 keep losing money on the business where --
 5 First there was like a shopping little mall that
 6 was going to go in, it was a no. There was
 7 Sarpino's Pizza was scared them away, and no.
 8 Myself, I walk away because when things
 9 happening it was a no. Now we have another
 10 situation over here. What is it going to be,
 11 another no?
 12 I'm sorry, I'm done. I just want
 13 to just mention what I feel. You know, I --
 14 Thank you.
 15 MR. ZEHR: I'm still up there.
 16 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: I will give you a
 17 chance to speak again. You have already been
 18 sworn in.
 19 Just state your name for the
 20 record.
 21 MR. ZEHR: I just want to tell
 22 Mr. Pinto that I understand his situation. I

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1 also have invested my life savings in real
 2 estate and have also lost almost, you know, got
 3 to the point where now I'm worried about living
 4 too long because I don't whether or -- my wife
 5 and I retired in 2006 when everything was going
 6 great. And as you know, everything has crashed.
 7 So I understand your pain, I feel
 8 your pain. But so do 100 million other people
 9 in the United States feel your pain. Everybody
 10 is underwater. My house might have been worth
 11 -- might be worth about 70 percent of what it
 12 was in 2000. I'm not sure when you bought your
 13 building, but everybody is experiencing that and
 14 a lot of these people in here are worried that
 15 it's going to go, their value of the home is
 16 even going to go lower if you build the used car
 17 lot there.
 18 So I understand, I would like you
 19 guys to bail me out. Is anybody interested in
 20 buying a house or -- You know, it's just --
 21 Everybody is feeling it. You know, it's not
 22 just you.

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1 Now, there is a lot of smart people
 2 in this room. I would like to help you try to
 3 figure and, you know, my neighbor here. And
 4 maybe all of you, let's -- Maybe we do exactly
 5 what he said. Let's sit down and try to come up
 6 with some ideas since it affects us, let's all
 7 get together and try to help this man save his
 8 life savings. We should be able to come in.
 9 And the people up here, we should be able to
 10 come up with some ideas. But not a used car
 11 lot, not at the entrance to Prospect Heights.
 12 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Okay. Thank you.
 13 MR. ZEHR: Thank you.
 14 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Mr. Dalessandro, I
 15 will give you another chance. You have already
 16 been sworn in.
 17 MR. DALESSANDRO: I just want to ask a
 18 question, the way I understand this thing with
 19 the Sarpino's is they refused --
 20 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Can we just keep it
 21 to this case, though?
 22 MR. DALESSANDRO: But the point is they

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1 refused it.
 2 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: But it doesn't
 3 matter to this case.
 4 MR. DALESSANDRO: No, it does because
 5 Sarpino's would have been nice. But this
 6 situation is different. But there are different
 7 franchises that have different hours as well.
 8 They had that opportunity. But I think that
 9 Mr. Zehr's idea with regard to this and working
 10 with Mr. Pinto to come up with something else, I
 11 would love to do that. I mean I would sit down
 12 with him at any time.
 13 I mean there is probably many
 14 different connections that we all have through
 15 networking to maybe have something be brought
 16 there. But I think, once again, the used car
 17 lot I think is just ten pounds of potatoes in a
 18 five-pound bag for this site. That's all it is.
 19 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Is there anyone else
 20 in the audience that would like to comment on
 21 this case? Sir, step up.
 22 As long as everybody is talking, I

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1 might as well put my two cents in.

2 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Okay. Please state

3 your name for the record.

4 MR. VALSKIS: Bernie Valskis, 705 North

5 Maple, Prospect Heights.

6 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Spell your last

7 name.

8 MR. VALSKIS: V-a-l-s-k-i-s.

9 (Mr. Valskis sworn.)

10 MR. VALSKIS: I do.

11 As my wife said, we've lived in the

12 neighborhood for 30 years. I think the biggest

13 problem with the whole thing is the parking

14 situation. On the north side, that's just not

15 going to work. If they want to park cars at an

16 angle there, I can remember when Heights was

17 there. And when you had a car parallel parked

18 there, you had to drive on the sidewalk to get

19 around and move in and out of that place. Same

20 thing with parking in the front of that

21 building. If you try to back out, you are going

22 to get T boned out there on 83 with the traffic.

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1 So what do they do, they drive around on the

2 sidewalk. And that's the only way in and out of

3 there. And if you try to park half a dozen cars

4 on there, even at an angle, the only thing left

5 is going to be the sidewalk. I mean I don't

6 care what you, how you measure it, it's just not

7 going to work. That's all I have got to say.

8 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you. Is there

9 anyone else in the audience that would like to

10 speak to this case?

11 Okay. Commissioners, additional

12 comments, questions?

13 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Would it be

14 possible for me to read these letters into the

15 record at this point?

16 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Absolutely.

17 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: I will be

18 reading two letters this evening, one on behalf

19 of my grandmother who resides at 707 North

20 Elmhurst Road and one on behalf of my mother,

21 who resides at 2870 South Avenue, both happen to

22 be out of the country at the moment but wish to

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1 submit a letter.

2 "Dear Commissioners: I

3 respectfully request my testimony, in its

4 entirety, be read into the record of this

5 hearing by Commissioner Frank-Watson.

6 "My name is Helene Kelly..."

7 that's K-e-l-ly. "... and I reside at 707 North

8 Elmhurst Road, Prospect Heights, Illinois. I am

9 currently out of the country and therefore

10 unable to attend this hearing. My property is

11 located 100 feet south of the subject property

12 and I had resided there since 1959.

13 "The property at 711 North Elmhurst

14 Road is zoned B-1 Retail Business and abuts two

15 single family properties in a residential

16 neighborhood. In almost all cases, B-1 parcels

17 are relatively small in size and located in

18 close proximity to R-1 Single Family Residential

19 properties. In B-1 zoning, there are over 100

20 permitted uses and 14 special uses. These uses

21 were currently chosen and deemed to be

22 compatible with nearby residential property use.

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1 Used car sales and auto repair shops are not

2 compatible or harmonious uses with the

3 surrounding residential areas of any B-1 parcel,

4 including the property at 711 North Elmhurst

5 Road.

6 "Furthermore, no need can be shown

7 to exist for the proposed uses on the subject

8 parcel nor on any B-1 parcel. Our zoning

9 ordinance already allows for used car sales and

10 auto repair in less restrictive business

11 districts which are located in primarily

12 commercial areas. One example is the Rand Road

13 corridor which is almost exclusively commercial.

14 Unlike the less restrictive business districts,

15 most B-1 parcels are located on streets such as

16 Elmhurst Road, which is primarily residential.

17 Used car sales and auto repair shops are

18 undesirable and inappropriate uses which should

19 not be allowed to infiltrate and forever change

20 the appearance and character of these areas.

21 "I have serious concerns regarding

22 the many negatives associated with these two

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1 types of businesses being allowed in a B-1
 2 district and their adverse impact on the
 3 neighborhoods and nearby homes. These include:
 4 environmental concerns regarding waste disposal
 5 and our private wells; impact on private wells
 6 from car washing & detailing; signage (both
 7 regular and promotional); noise generated from
 8 major auto repair work; and the devaluation of
 9 nearby residential residential properties. As
 10 concerns the subject property, there are also
 11 additional concerns due to the size of the lot:
 12 limited space to accommodate parking for stock,
 13 employees, servicing, and sales customer
 14 vehicles; close proximity of the building to
 15 adjacent single family homes; and minimal zoning
 16 buffer from business to adjacent residential
 17 lots.

18 "Regarding the property at 711
 19 North Elmhurst Road, we who live in the area
 20 would welcome a new business at that location.
 21 It is more than justifiable to insist that it be
 22 one of the hundred plus allowable uses that

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1 already exist for B-1 zoning. It is also our
 2 imperative to ensure that it be compatible and
 3 harmonious with the surrounding residential
 4 area - not harmful or injurious.

5 "The applicant is requesting both a
 6 text amendment and a special use permit that
 7 would adversely effect the appearance,
 8 residential property valuation, and character,
 9 not only of our neighborhood, but of all
 10 neighborhoods which contain B-1 Retail Business
 11 properties. I have outlined numerous valid
 12 arguments for denial of the requests.
 13 Furthermore, the application does not meet all
 14 the requisite standards for the text amendment
 15 and special uses as set forth in our zoning
 16 ordinance. Therefore, I respectfully ask that
 17 you deny both applications.

18 "Sincerely, Helene Kelly."

19 Dear Commissioners: I respectfully
 20 request that my testimony in its entirety be
 21 read into the record of this hearing by
 22 Commissioner Frank-Watson.

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1 My name is Corrine Kelly,
 2 K-e-l-l-y. I reside at 207 East Olive Avenue,
 3 Prospect Heights, Illinois, 60070. I am
 4 currently outside the country and, therefore,
 5 unable to attend this hearing.

6 I will post both the application
 7 for text amendment to our B-1 Zoning District
 8 Special Uses and the accompanying application
 9 for the Special Use Permit as they apply to the
 10 property at 711 North Elmhurst Road and to all
 11 B-1 properties in general.

12 Our B-1 zoning district is a retail
 13 business district for parcels relatively small
 14 in size primarily adjacent to residential
 15 properties and provides for uses compatible with
 16 neighboring residential uses. Most B-1 parcels
 17 are located on Elmhurst Road, which is primarily
 18 residential. For that reason, the B-1 zoning
 19 classification is the most restrictive of all
 20 the business districts. There is a need and
 21 necessity for this zoning classification as it
 22 exists. Care and prudent thought were put into

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1 determining both the permitted and special uses
 2 for that district. Used auto sales and car
 3 repair shops are undesirable uses and are
 4 incompatible with the surrounding areas of all
 5 but one of our B-1 districts.

6 Other less restrictive zoning
 7 districts already exist which allow for uses
 8 such as used auto sales and auto repair shops.
 9 For example, along Rand Road and south of
 10 Chicago Executive Airport. If someone wants to
 11 open a car sales or auto repair business, they
 12 have every opportunity to do so in the
 13 appropriately zoned district.

14 As concerns the automobile-related
 15 uses on B-1 properties at the northeast and
 16 southwest corners of Elmhurst Road, it is
 17 important to make some clarification. NAPA Auto
 18 Parts is an automobile accessory store. It's an
 19 allowable Special Use in a B-1 district. Auto
 20 repair is strictly prohibited.

21 Dave's Auto Clinic is legal
 22 existing nonconforming in the B-1 district. Our

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1 zoning ordinance specifically provides for the
2 gradual elimination of nonconforming uses of
3 land through the discontinuance of use
4 ordinances.

5 It would be contradictory and
6 illogical to site this nonconforming use as an
7 argument for amending an ordinance that auto
8 repair shops is a special use on a nearby B-1
9 property.

10 Numerous activities inherent in the
11 operation and general repair in the used car
12 sales and auto repair shop will have a decidedly
13 negative and harmful impact on the neighboring
14 residences and the local area in any B-1
15 district. These include signage, permanent and
16 temporary; noise from auto repair work; possible
17 contamination of wells and wastewater from
18 improper, inadequate disposal; impact on private
19 wells in car washing and detailing; and certain
20 diminished value of nearby residential
21 properties.

22 Due to the lot size at 711 North

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1 Elmhurst Road additional valid concerns exist
2 regarding the minimal zoning buffer with
3 adjacent residential property; the close
4 proximity of homes to the buildings, as well as
5 parking for the vehicles for sale, employees,
6 those waiting to be serviced, and those sales
7 customers.

8 No need can be shown to exist for
9 the additional uses requested in the text
10 amendment to our B-1 zoning district, nor for
11 permitting these uses by the B-1 property at 711
12 North Elmhurst Road.

13 As stated before, other zoning
14 districts already exist which allow for such
15 uses. Additionally, under the B-1 retail
16 business district our ordinance lists 122
17 permitted uses and 14 special uses. Therefore,
18 the subject property and all other B-1
19 properties certainly have reasonable economic
20 use under the current zoning classification
21 allowed uses.

22 A text amendment to our zoning

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1 ordinance altering this allowable use in this
2 district in order to accommodate this or any
3 applicant's desire to open such a business is
4 not judicious zoning. It is instead a misuse of
5 text amendments. Accommodating a private
6 interest to the detriment of the neighboring
7 properties without adequate public advantage or
8 justification may well be considered illegal
9 spot zoning. If the application is granted for
10 the amendment to B-1 zoning to allow these
11 special uses, it becomes a special use in each
12 and every B-1 parcel in our City. Anyone with a
13 current or future interest in any of these
14 parcels would have a right to apply for these
15 uses.

16 Should you grant the application
17 for special use permits for 711 North Elmhurst
18 Road, you are opening the door for anyone with a
19 current or future interest in Dave's Auto Clinic
20 and NAPA Auto Parts to request permits for the
21 same special uses. A legal precedent will have
22 been set and the zoning board would be hard

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1 pressed to find justifiable cause to deny the
2 requests.

3 Another predictable outcome
4 especially regards 711 North Elmhurst Road is
5 the domino effect. We are well aware that the
6 owner of 709 North Elmhurst Road, the
7 residential property to the south, has
8 previously applied for a map amendment to rezone
9 his parcel from single family to B-1 in a
10 consolidation of lots with the intention of
11 building a strip mall on 709 - 711 North
12 Elmhurst Road. Should this special use be
13 granted and someone contemplates expansion of
14 the auto sales and car repair shops we will
15 assuredly see another attempt to rezone R-1.

16 Used car sales and auto shops, take
17 a good look at Rand Road and other areas with
18 these types of businesses, all of which are
19 located in primarily commercial areas.

20 Is this the appearance and image we
21 want to present to other B-1 districts located
22 in primarily residential areas around the City?

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1 This would not be thoughtful judicious planning
2 and zoning, nor would it be in keeping with the
3 intent or purpose of our zoning ordinance and
4 Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

5 A stated purpose of our zoning
6 ordinance is to protect areas of encroachment by
7 incompatible uses and to make sure classes of
8 uses are not usurped by other inappropriate
9 uses. The zoning board will hopefully honor
10 this purpose and the obligation to retain the
11 integrity of our ordinance and the zoning
12 districts described within.

13 In my testimony, I have tried to
14 give substantive, credible and compelling
15 arguments for the denial of the applicant's
16 request. Most emphatically, the application for
17 a text amendment and special use permit for
18 either use do not meet all the legal requisite
19 standards as described in our zoning ordinance.
20 I, therefore, respectfully request that you deny
21 both applications.

22 Sincerely, Corrine Kelly.

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1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you, Corrinne.

3 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Commissioners have
5 any additional comments?

6 COMMISSIONER JONES: I have a couple.
7 I have listened to a lot of this, and I'm
8 thinking about -- Someone made the statement
9 maybe we can sit down and address a lot of the
10 residents' needs. Unfortunately, this plan is
11 not complete. We still haven't pinned down
12 parking. There is another possible parking plan
13 somewhere around. Is it viable to, you know,
14 slow down and see if we can make this work?

15 I mean the gentleman that owns the
16 business has a right to use the business. I
17 know that it's a tough. It's a very tough spot.
18 But what can we do to, you know -- I can't
19 say keep everybody happy because I don't think
20 we can do that. But put stuff in that special
21 use that allows for this to work. Maybe it's a
22 change in the hours. Maybe it's a fencing. You

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1 know, a fencing, maybe it's a relocation of a
2 door instead of blasting the house to the east,
3 maybe it's exiting out the north. I mean there
4 is a lot of issues that came up. I don't know
5 that this plan is completely accurate at this
6 time.

7 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: I think the
8 real issue here is that he's asking us to change
9 our ordinance for him. So we are not just, we
10 are not just changing it, you know, we are not
11 allowing him a special use. This is not the
12 same thing. We are essentially changing our
13 ordinance. We are really rezoning for one
14 person, you know.

15 I feel for you. I understand, you
16 said you have invested your life savings into
17 this. And unfortunately, that's a gamble you
18 take as a business owner, as a homeowner, we are
19 all in the same position. But you are not
20 limited. You know, it is not like you are
21 prevented from selling your business or selling
22 that property, you know, or leasing it to

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1 someone. But right now our ordinance does
2 prohibit the types of uses, as you know, for
3 that property. And I think for very good
4 reason.

5 I don't think the residents here
6 want this. I don't think it has to really do
7 with parking or where there is a door. They
8 don't want a used car lot next to their homes or
9 behind their homes. And I don't think any of us
10 would want a used car lot next to us.

11 And unfortunately, I think
12 sometimes those who live on Elmhurst Road and
13 Palatine frontage are treated like second class
14 citizens. I live on Elmhurst Road. I live
15 there because I couldn't afford a house on an
16 interior street. I put a new roof on my house.
17 I just rebuilt my chimney. I'm going to put in
18 new windows. That's where I live and that's
19 where these people live, and they have invested
20 their life savings as well.

21 And to put a used car lot next door
22 to them will, undoubtedly, affect the property

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1 value of their homes not to mention it's an
2 eyesore. It's seedy. We denied pawn shops at
3 this intersection because we didn't want that to
4 be what greeted you as you drove through the
5 gateway of Prospect Heights.

6 Well, do we really want a used car
7 lot to greet those who drive through the gateway
8 of Prospect Heights? I don't think so. Again,
9 he's not limited. He's asking us to change our
10 entire ordinance for his benefit but not for the
11 benefit of the residents.

12 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Anyone else have any
13 comments, questions?

14 Mr. Skiber, NAPA is B-1, Dave's
15 Auto Clinic is B-1. If this text amendment were
16 passed, those two businesses would not even have
17 to come to the City to sell used cars; is that
18 correct?

19 MR. SKIBER: No, Mr. Chairman. Because
20 you are amending the text amendment as specific
21 to Special Use uses under B-1. Therefore,
22 anyone that would want to come forward for used

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1 cars would have to petition for a year; and it
2 would be handled on a case-by-case basis.
3 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: I can
4 assure you that one of the owners of one of
5 those businesses will be before you very soon
6 with an application. And we are setting a legal
7 precedent if we allow this.

8 The other business I'm referring to
9 has I believe about an acre of land. He has
10 roughly 16 or more parking spaces in front and
11 way, way more in the back to accommodate the
12 stock. This is an individual who has had a
13 business in our community since 1978. He is a
14 good person. He donates to the police
15 department. He pays taxes to the City. He
16 generates sales tax revenue for the City. Not
17 only will this hurt him but it will also allow
18 him to, like everyone said, apply for a special
19 use. And I just don't see how we could
20 reasonably deny him. If we are cramming
21 something like this on a tiny little lot, how
22 are you going to deny him the same?

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1 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Any other questions,
2 comments, from the commissioners?

3 Okay. Then I will entertain a motion.

4 COMMISSIONER TAMMEN: I make a motion
5 to deny the application.

6 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Okay. Is there a
7 second?

8 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Second.

9 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Roll call, please.

10 MR. SABO: Motion made by Commissioner
11 Tammen and seconded by Commissioner
12 Frank-Watson.

13 MR. YEHL: Just for the record, we want
14 to make it clear that the motion is to deny the
15 application?

16 COMMISSIONER TAMMEN: Correct.

17 MR. YEHL: So a vote in the affirmative
18 is a vote to deny the application.

19 MR. SABO: Roll call.

20 Commissioner Tammen?

21 COMMISSIONER TAMMEN: Aye.

22 MR. SABO: Commissioner Dash?

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1 COMMISSIONER DASH: Nay.

2 MR. SABO: Commissioner Jones?

3 COMMISSIONER JONES: Aye.

4 MR. SABO: Commissioner Frank-Watson?

5 COMMISSIONER FRANK-WATSON: Aye.

6 MR. SABO: Commissioner Roscoe?

7 (Mr. Roscoe not present.)

8 MR. SABO: Commissioner Wyatt?

9 CHAIRMAN WYATT: Aye.

10 MR. SABO: Chairman Weidman?

11 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Aye.

12 MR. SABO: Five ayes to one nay vote.

13 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: So our

14 recommendation to the City Council will be to
15 deny this request. And again, we are just the
16 recommending body. It will go in front of the
17 City Council once our minutes have been
18 approved.

19 MS. VOLE: Can I ask one more question?

20 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Sure.

21 MS. VOLE: The timeline, so that we are
22 all under the same understanding, is that the

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1 minutes then come back at the next meeting and
2 are approved at the meeting. And from that
3 approval, they will be heard at the next City
4 Council. Correct?

5 MR. SKIBER: I can't affirm that based
6 on the schedule of the next meeting being short,
7 specifically November 15, and the fact that we
8 have to review and approve the transcript that's
9 going to be lengthy, so I will not affirm that.

10 MS. VOLE: So I'm trying to get the
11 time frame. So that you said 45 to 60 days?

12 MR. SKIBER: We are convening and it
13 still will be within the 45 to 60 days.

14 MS. VOLE: No problem. Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: For the record I
16 would like to enter two additional exhibits. We
17 will call it ZBA No. 10, and that is the exhibit
18 Certificate of Good Standing that has no
19 dealer's license according to the State of
20 Illinois, Secretary of State. I believe this
21 also had to do with the incorporation of Advance
22 Motor Sales.

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1 MR. MADDEN: If I could clarify that.
2 I wasn't sure if he had indicated he had a
3 license or not, but I did verify that he did not
4 yet have any dealer's license. The actual
5 document that -- My intention there is for you
6 to see that the testimony that he gave was not
7 accurate when he stated that this was an
8 incorporated company. At least according to the
9 Secretary of State's records, there is no
10 corporation under that name or similar name.

11 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you,
12 Mr. Madden.

13 And ZBA No. 11 are photos of Global
14 Automotive.

15 Okay. Are there any
16 communications?

17 MR. SKIBER: Yes, Mr. Chairman.
18 Unfortunately, I do have some bad news regarding
19 one of our longstanding previous commissioners,
20 Mr. Larry Purcell. I received information that
21 Mr. Purcell has passed away within the last
22 month. However, I was not able to locate an

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1 obituary, so I don't have any details. But
2 Mr. Purcell is a longstanding member of this
3 board, a long-standing resident of the City, and
4 a good friend to many, and we will miss him. I
5 am told that there will be a memorial service on
6 November 17. But again, unfortunately, I can't
7 give any details. I will continue to research
8 this and pass it on accordingly. Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Thank you, Steve.

10 Is there any old business?
11 City Council Action?

12 MR. SKIBER: City Council is up-to-date
13 with all the recommendations and ordinances so
14 nothing to report on that, Mr. Chairman.

15 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Is there any new
16 business?

17 MR. SKIBER: Yes. There will be an
18 agenda for the meeting next month on
19 November the 15th and that process will start
20 tomorrow as the deadline for the legal notices.

21 So there will be an agenda for the
22 meeting of November 15. Thank you.

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1 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Okay. I will
2 entertain a motion to adjourn.

3 COMMISSIONER TAMMEN: I will make that
4 motion.

5 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: Is there a second?

6 COMMISSIONER DASH: I second the
7 motion.

8 CHAIRMAN WEIDMAN: All in favor?

9 (A chorus of ayes.)

10 MR. YEHL: Thank you all for coming.

11 * * *

12 (Which were all the proceedings had
13 in the above-entitled cause.)

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