

TOWN OF CHESHIRE

PLANNING BOARD

191 CHURCH STREET CHESHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS 01225

PHONE (413)743-1690 EXT 114 | EMAIL PLANNING@CHESHIRE-MA.GOV



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS – PETITION #PB004

Public Hearing – November 4, 2025 & November 10, 2025

Pursuant to a notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a public hearing of the Planning Board was held in person at 191 Church Street (Meeting Room) on Tuesday November 4, 2025, at 5:00PM and Monday November 10, 2025, at 5:00PM.

NOVEMBER 4, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Traub, Chairman; Francis Griswold, Member; William Moreau, Alternate.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Arthur Kaufman, Member; Amy McCarthy, Member; Daniel Skorcz, Member.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mia Francesconi, Executive Assistant; Jennifer Morse, Town Administrator; Jason Levesque, Stafford Hill Armory LLC; Karen Kruszyna; Michelle & Thomas Francesconi; Shawn McGrath; Dan Hajdas; Jaydip Patel, Cheshire Liquor Center; Emily & Sean Conley; James Gradziel; Paul Baran; Brian Koczela, BEK Land Surveyors & Foresters Associates.

NOVEMBER 10, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Traub, Chairman; Arthur Kaufman, Member; Amy McCarthy, Member; Daniel Skorcz, Member; Francis Griswold, Member.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mia Francesconi, Executive Assistant; Jennifer Morse, Town Administrator; William Moreau, Alternate; Jason Levesque, Stafford Hill Armory LLC; Michael Kruszyna; Dan Hajdas; Jaydip Patel, Cheshire Liquor Center; Emily & Sean Conley; James Gradziel; Paul Baran.

P. Traub opened the public hearing for Petition #PB004 (“A Special Permit Application (SPA) for 116 Church Street, Parcel ID No. 109-078, submitted by Jason Levesque of Stafford Hill Armory LLC, for the operation of a retail business, Stafford Hill Armory LLC, a federally licensed firearms and ammunition dealer also retailing other outdoor sporting goods items, in the Business (B) Zoning District.”) at 5:14PM on November 4, 2025.

P. Traub invited J. Levesque to present his Application to the Board.

J. Levesque explained that he submitted a Special Permit Application, per Town of Cheshire General Code c. 225 §3.2 (23.), for the operation of his retail business, Stafford Hill Armory LLC, a federally licensed firearms and ammunition dealer also retailing other outdoor sporting goods items, on the first floor of a building located at 116 Church Street, Parcel ID No. 109-078. He noted that his Application was the first step in a lengthy process in obtaining licensure for the retail store, in its new location, at both

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the local, State, and federal level. He expressed his belief that the storefront had adequate parking with seven (7) parking spots in total and noted that the parking situation would be reevaluated if an issue was to arise. He explained that his security measures were in full compliance with State regulations. This included 24/7 video monitoring of the storefront and surrounding area and the reinforcement of all exterior windows. He then noted the storefront's proximity to the Cheshire Police Department.

P. Traub expressed his belief that the Application met all required findings outlined in Town of Cheshire General Code c. 225 §10.1 (E.) and stated that he did not have any questions for the applicant.

P. Traub invited F. Griswold and W. Moreau to comment on the application and/or ask questions.

F. Griswold and W. Moreau had no comments or questions for the applicant.

P. Traub opened the public comment period for Petition #PB004 at 5:19PM on November 4, 2025.

No public comment.

P. Traub explained that there were only three (3) members of the Board present, therefore a vote could not be taken on the Application until at least four (4) members of the Board were present per Town of Cheshire General Code c. 225 §10.1 (G.) and that in order for that requirement to be met, another meeting must be scheduled. Members discussed.

The Applicant and the Board agreed that the second meeting would be held on Monday November 10, 2025, at 5:00PM for the continuation of the public hearing for Petition #PB004.

A motion was made by W. Moreau and seconded by F. Griswold to continue the public comment period for Petition #PB004 until a meeting of the Planning Board on Monday November 10, 2025, at 5:00PM.

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carries: 3-0

A motion was made by P. Traub and seconded by W. Moreau to continue the public hearing for Petition #PB004 until a meeting of the Planning Board on Monday November 10, 2025, at 5:00PM.

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carries 3-0

P. Traub reopened the public hearing for Petition #PB004 at 5:04PM on November 10, 2025.

P. Traub invited J. Levesque to continue his presentation of his Application to the Board.

J. Levesque summarized the reason behind his submission of a Special Permit Application, explaining that he was looking to operate his retail business, Stafford Hill Armory LLC, a federally licensed firearms and ammunition dealer also retailing other outdoor sporting goods items, on the first floor of a building located at 116 Church Street, Parcel ID No. 109-078, owned by Michael & Karen Kruszyna. He also explained his plans for parking and security for the business. He stated that his initial business hours would likely be in the evenings as he would be transitioning from his current daytime job to operating the business full-time.

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P. Traub invited members to comment on the application and/or ask questions.

A. Kaufman asked members if they felt that an inspection of the business upon opening was necessary, if the Application was approved. Members discussed this and invited J. Levesque to speak on the subject. J. Levesque explained that both the State and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) would perform regular inspections of the business and property. Members were satisfied with J. Levesque's response.

A. Kaufman asked J. Levesque if he planned to sell supplies for those hiking the Ashuwillticook Trail. J. Levesque stated that he may, but he would not have a definite answer until he was closer to opening the business. A. Kaufman was satisfied with J. Levesque's response.

P. Traub reopened the public comment period for Petition #PB004 at 5:13PM on November 10, 2025.

No public comment.

P. Traub closed the public comment period for Petition #PB004 at 5:14PM on November 10, 2025.

A motion was made by A. Kaufman and seconded by D. Skorcz to issue a Special Permit for Petition #PB004, to Jason Levesque of Stafford Hill Armory LLC, for the operation of a retail business, Stafford Hill Armory LLC, a federally licensed firearms and ammunition dealer also retailing other outdoor sporting goods items, a Mercantile (M) use, in the Business (B) Zoning District, for a property located at 116 Church Street, Parcel ID No. 109-078.

Vote: P. Traub, Yes; A. Kaufman, Yes; A. McCarthy, Yes; D. Skorcz, Yes; F. Griswold, Yes.

Motion Carries: 5-0

P. Traub closed the public hearing for Petition #PB004 at 5:18PM on November 10, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,


Mia Francesconi – Executive Assistant


Peter Traub – Planning Board Chairman

