

Lee Sotiropoulos  
193 Lower Main Street  
Freeport, Maine 04032

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To the Falmouth Town Council,

My family and I have been residents and local business owners here in Falmouth for 42 years. Prior to being evicted with little notice, and less reason by the new owners of the Falmouth Shopping Plaza, we were owners of the Falmouth House of Pizza. My parents emigrated to America from Greece in pursuit of the American Dream. They struggled to make ends meet, but eventually saved enough to open our restaurant in 1977. Falmouth House of Pizza was the backbone of my family's history, and I want nothing more than to continue my family's tradition in our hometown. I am writing with the hope that the Falmouth Town Council would consider a zoning exception in the Business and Professional zone directly adjacent to Village Center at 356 route one.

I have attempted to relocate FHOP, but unfortunately have not had any success in finding an available location within the Falmouth Village Center zoning areas. Shortly after my search, it was brought to my attention that there was a lot of land at 356 Route 1 in Falmouth. After researching the property, I learned that it is within the Business and Professional zone, which does not permit food service establishments. With that said, 356 Route 1 lies only ½ mile from the VC1 zone. I am asking for your consideration to extend this zone, so as to allow the property that I am currently under contract with, or to provide for any form of exception that might permit this project to progress to the next step.

I have over 25 years of experience in the restaurant industry. I started working at the Falmouth House of Pizza at fourteen and have continued on to manage another family restaurant, Antonia's, in Freeport as the general manager. I believe that building a new restaurant and brewery in the town of Falmouth would be of great benefit, and may perhaps, partially fill the void left by the now defunct Falmouth House of Pizza. This experience would allow me and my associates to create a quality restaurant that will be convenient for all, and bolster the local economy. In the end, my hope is to continue my family's legacy through the town's desire for a family-friendly brewery/restaurant in Falmouth.

Please find attached a copy of the 2016 zoning map of Falmouth, with an arrow indicating the location of 356 Route one, and its proximity to the nearest VC1 zone line.

Respectfully,

Lee Sotiropoulos