April 30, 2020
Underhill-Jericho Fire Department
420 VT RT-15
Underhill, VT 05489

RE: Training Site Conditions Amending
Underhill-Jericho Fire Department
275 Browns Trace Rd, Jericho, VT
Parcel BT275

Jericho Development Review Board,

As suggested by Chris Flinn we would like to clarify what items might be stored within one of the Conex boxes. These types of items might be equipment that is considered overflow from the fire stations. Items that the department might only have a very limited use for, or possibly are an excess supply that we don't have enough room within either station to house. If there are to be hazardous materials or chemicals, these would only be within acceptable amounts that are comparable to household quantities.

One thing that was brought to our attention by the zoning department, was a suggestion to receive permission for preapproval to be given to the Zoning Administrator for additional blocks of training containers. Instead of using a number of metal conex containers, we would like to have approval for additional blocks. If you refer to the zoomed in map we have provided of the current site, you will notice that there appears to only be two units on the site. One is a maze trailer, the other is actually two metal Conex boxes stacked on top of the other that make one unit. With the addition of the two metal containers we are requesting, we would also like to stack them on top of one another, and place that unit side by side with the current two on site. The idea of this four container block is that it would be assembled together to replicate a two story home structure. Having these blocks of containers would allow us the ability to better educate for more realistic emergency scenario training. The idea is that when the fire department would need to add more block(s) to the site, this could now be approved by town staff and avoid having to reschedule a DRB hearing. The approval by staff would be based on the proposal being compliant with the conditions and facts of the training site set forth after our scheduled meeting.

The fire department also has reviewed the sites conditional use approval from June 2000, and we would like to update and amend item #1 that states, "A commercial theatrical fog machine will be used to simulate smoke inside the trailers. No chemicals or water will typically be used in these trainings". We need this to better reflect our ability to do controlled burning within the metal boxes. This would be identical to what the Vermont Fire Academy does at their training facilities in Randolph, VT and Pittsford, VT. This will give our firefighters the opportunity to learn and practice scenarios they will likely see when responding to live

emergency situations in the community. Firefighters always need to continue honing their skills, and new fire fighters need specialized training to learn their critical trade. Firefighters must be better prepared to respond to our neighbors emergencies due to the training that we will receive in a live burn scenario. When these burns do take place special consideration is given to the materials used to create this environment. The burning of only organic materials, such as wood (non-pressure treated), hay, and straw are used to create heat and smoke conditions within the containers. These fires are very small and only require a very limited use of water. The required water flow would not be enough to pool or create any runoff. The department also would like to include the ability to host controlled LP gas trainings and simulated "vehicle fires" (with the use of a LP gas prop car). These two types of scenarios are also offered at the Randolph & Pittsford training facilities, by having these events hosted here we can only help broaden the available realistic training for our firefighters by allowing them the ability to learn the most up to date tactics for handling these types of emergencies.

Sincerely,

Fire Chief Matthew Champlin

1st Assistant Chief Shawn Martell

Firefighter Jerry Russin Jr.