Date:	February 20, 2020
To	Town of Cumberland Planning Board
From	Carla Nixon, Town Planner
Subject	**Site Plan Review for Greenhouse**

I. REQUEST/PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Alan Blanchard is the applicant and owner of a family farm located at 169 Greely Road. The applicant is requesting site plan review for the construction of one high hoop greenhouse to be located adjacent to an existing greenhouse. The property is shown on Tax Assessor Map R-04, Lot 31 and is within the Rural Residential 1 (RR 1) zoning district. The proposed use, Agriculture, is a permitted use in the district.

The project is eligible for Minor Staff Site Plan Review because it involves the construction of a new structure that is less than 1,000 s.f.

II. TOWN PLANNER'S REVIEW: All necessary information was provided to make positive findings of fact and to grant Minor Staff Site Plan Approval.

III. TOWN ENGINEER'S REVIEW: The application was not sent out for peer review.

IV. WAIVER REQUESTS: None

SECTION 10: APPROVAL STANDARDS AND CRITERIA

The following criteria shall be used by the Planning Board in reviewing applications for site plan review and shall serve as minimum requirements for approval of the application. The application shall be approved unless the Planning Board determines that the applicant has failed to meet one or more of these standards. In all instances, the burden of proof shall be on the applicant who must produce evidence sufficient to warrant a finding that all applicable criteria have been met.

10.1 Utilization of the Site

Utilization of the Site - The plan for the development, including buildings, lots, and support facilities, must reflect the natural capabilities of the site to support development. Environmentally sensitive areas, including but not limited to, wetlands, steep slopes, floodplains, significant wildlife habitats, fisheries, scenic areas, habitat for rare and endangered plants and animals, unique natural communities and natural areas, and sand and gravel aquifers must be maintained and preserved to the maximum extent. The development must include appropriate measures for protecting these resources, including but not limited to, modification of the proposed design of the site, timing of construction, and limiting the extent of excavation.

The site is an open field with several farm-related outbuildings. The proposed addition of a 1400 sf greenhouse that will be placed on a soil pad

requires no excavation. No environmentally sensitive areas will be affected by the development of this site as proposed.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.2 Traffic, Circulation and Parking

10.2.1 Traffic Access and Parking

Vehicular access to and from the development must be safe and convenient.

10.2.1.1 Any driveway or proposed street must be designed so as to provide the minimum sight distance according to the Maine Department of Transportation standards, to the maximum extent possible.
10.2.1.2 Points of access and egress must be located to avoid hazardous conflicts with existing turning movements and traffic flows.
10.2.1.3 The grade of any proposed drive or street must be not more than +3% for a minimum of two (2) car lengths, or forty (40) feet, from the intersection.
10.2.1.4 The intersection of any access/egress drive or proposed street must function: (a) at a Level of Service D, or better, following development if the project will generate one thousand (1,000) or more vehicle trips per twenty-four (24) hour period; or (b) at a level which will allow safe access into and out of the project if less than one thousand (1,000) trips are generated.
10.2.1.5 Where a lot has frontage on two (2) or more streets, the primary access to and egress from the lot must be provided from the street where there is less potential for traffic congestion and for traffic and pedestrians hazards. Access from other streets may be allowed if it is safe and does not promote short cutting through the site.
10.2.1.6 Where it is necessary to safeguard against hazards to traffic and pedestrians and/ or to avoid traffic congestion, the applicant shall be responsible for providing turning lanes, traffic directional islands, and traffic controls within public streets.
10.2.1.7 Access ways must be designed and have sufficient capacity to avoid queuing of entering vehicles on any public street.
10.2.1.8 The following criteria must be used to limit the number of driveways serving a proposed project:

a. No use which generates less than one hundred (100) vehicle trips per day shall have more than one (1) two-way driveway onto a single roadway. Such driveway must be no greater than thirty (30) feet wide.

b. No use which generates one hundred (100) or more vehicle trips per day shall have more than two (2) points of entry from and two (2) points of egress to a single roadway. The combined width of all access ways must not exceed sixty (60) feet.

The proposed amendment does not involve any changes to the traffic, access and/or parking plan. Access will be along an existing 12' wide, 200' long, unpaved private road.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.2.2 Access way Location and Spacing

Access ways must meet the following standards:

10.2.2.1 Private entrance / exits must be located at least fifty (50) feet from the closest un-signalized intersection and one hundred fifty (150) feet from the closest signalized intersection, as measured from the point of tangency for the corner to the point of tangency for the access way. This requirement may be reduced if the shape of the site does not allow conformance with this standard.
10.2.2.2 Private access ways in or out of a development must be separated by a minimum of seventy-five (75) feet where possible.

The project complies with these requirements.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.2.3 Internal Vehicular Circulation

The layout of the site must provide for the safe movement of passenger, service, and emergency vehicles through the site.

10.2.3.1 Projects that will be served by delivery vehicles must provide a clear route for such vehicles with appropriate geometric design to allow turning and backing.
10.2.3.2 Clear routes of access must be provided and maintained for emergency vehicles to and around buildings and must be posted with appropriate signage (fire lane - no parking).
10.2.3.3 The layout and design of parking areas must provide for safe and convenient circulation of vehicles throughout the lot.
10.2.3.4 All roadways must be designed to harmonize with the topographic and natural features of the site insofar as practical by minimizing filling, grading, excavation, or other similar activities which result in unstable soil conditions and soil erosion, by fitting the development to the natural contour of the land and avoiding substantial areas of excessive grade and tree removal, and by retaining existing vegetation during construction. The road network must provide for vehicular, pedestrian, and cyclist safety, all season emergency access, snow storage, and delivery and collection services.

The project complies with these requirements.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.2.4 Parking Layout and Design

Off street parking must conform to the following standards:

10.2.4.1 Parking areas with more than two (2) parking spaces must be arranged so that it is not necessary for vehicles to back into the street.
10.2.4.2 All parking spaces, access drives, and impervious surfaces must be located at least fifteen (15) feet from any side or rear lot line, except where standards for buffer yards require a greater distance. No parking spaces or asphalt type surface shall be located within fifteen (15) feet of the front property line. Parking lots on adjoining lots may be connected by accessways not exceeding twenty-four (24) feet in width.
10.2.4.3 Parking stalls and aisle layout must conform to the following standards.

Parking Angle	Stall Width	Skew Width	Stall Depth	Aisle Width
90°	9'-0"		18'-0"	24'-0" 2-way
60°	8'-6"	10'-6"	18'-0"	16'-0" 1-way
45°	8'-6"	12'-9"	17'-6"	12'-0" 1-way
30°	8'-6"	17'-0"	17'-0"	12'-0" 1 way

10.2.4.4 In lots utilizing diagonal parking, the direction of proper traffic flow must be indicated by signs, pavement markings or other permanent indications and maintained as necessary.
10.2.4.5 Parking areas must be designed to permit each motor vehicle to proceed to and from the parking space provided for it without requiring the moving of any other motor vehicles.
10.2.4.6 Provisions must be made to restrict the "overhang" of parked vehicles when it might restrict traffic flow on adjacent through roads, restrict pedestrian or bicycle movement on adjacent walkways, or damage landscape materials.

There will be no customers to the site and no need for new parking.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.2.5 Building and Parking Placement

10.2.5.1 The site design should avoid creating a building surrounded by a parking lot. Parking should be to the side and preferably in the back. In rural, uncongested areas buildings should be set well back from the road so as to conform to the rural character of the area. If the parking is in front, a generous, landscaped buffer between road and parking lot is to be provided. Unused areas should be kept natural, as field, forest, wetland, etc.

10.2.5.2 Where two or more buildings are proposed, the buildings should be grouped and linked with sidewalks; tree planting should be used to provide shade and break up the scale of the site. Parking areas should be separated from the building by a minimum of five (5) to ten (10) feet. Plantings should be provided along the building edge, particularly where building facades consist of long or unbroken walls.

There is no parking proposed or required for this project.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.2.6 Pedestrian Circulation

The site plan must provide for a system of pedestrian ways within the development appropriate to the type and scale of development. This system must connect the major building entrances/ exits with parking areas and with existing sidewalks, if they exist or are planned in the vicinity of the project. The pedestrian network may be located either in the street right-of-way or outside of the right-of-way in open space or recreation areas. The system must be designed to link the project with residential, recreational, and commercial facilities, schools, bus stops, and existing sidewalks in the neighborhood or, when appropriate, to connect the amenities such as parks or open space on or adjacent to the site.

This greenhouse is not open to the public. There is no need for pedestrian ways.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.3 Stormwater Management and Erosion Control

10.3.1 Stormwater Management

Adequate provisions must be made for the collection and disposal of all stormwater that runs off proposed streets, parking areas, roofs, and other surfaces, through a stormwater drainage system and maintenance plan, which must not have adverse impacts on abutting or downstream properties.

10.3.1.1 To the extent possible, the plan must retain stormwater on the site using the natural features of the site.
10.3.1.2 Unless the discharge is directly to the ocean or major river segment, stormwater runoff systems must detain or retain water such that the rate of flow from the site after development does not exceed the predevelopment rate.
10.3.1.3 The applicant must demonstrate that on - and off-site downstream channel or system capacity is sufficient to carry the flow without adverse effects, including but not limited to, flooding and erosion of shoreland areas, or that he / she will be responsible for

whatever improvements are needed to provide the required increase in capacity and / or mitigation.

10.3.1.4 All natural drainage ways must be preserved at their natural gradients and must not be filled or converted to a closed system unless approved as part of the site plan review.

10.3.1.5 The design of the stormwater drainage system must provide for the disposal of stormwater without damage to streets, adjacent properties, downstream properties, soils, and vegetation.

10.3.1.6 The design of the storm drainage systems must be fully cognizant of upstream runoff which must pass over or through the site to be developed and provide for this movement.

10.3.1.7 The biological and chemical properties of the receiving waters must not be degraded by the stormwater runoff from the development site. The use of oil and grease traps in manholes, the use of on-site vegetated waterways, and vegetated buffer strips along waterways and drainage swales, and the reduction in use of deicing salts and fertilizers may be required, especially where the development stormwater discharges into a gravel aquifer area or other water supply source, or a great pond.

There will be a small amount of additional run-off as a result of the new structure, however the site is an open field and stormwater will flow off the structure and be absorbed into the ground.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.3.2 Erosion Control

10.3.2.1 All building, site, and roadway designs and layouts must harmonize with existing topography and conserve desirable natural surroundings to the fullest extent possible, such that filling, excavation and earth moving activity must be kept to a minimum. Parking lots on sloped sites must be terraced to avoid undue cut and fill, and / or the need for retaining walls. Natural vegetation must be preserved and protected wherever possible.

10.3.2.2 Soil erosion and sedimentation of watercourses and water bodies must be minimized by an active program meeting the requirements of the Maine Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook for Construction: Best Management Practices, dated March 1991, and as amended from time to time.

There will be no excavation for the structure. No trees will be removed.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.4 Water, Sewer, and Fire Protection

10.4.1 Water Supply Provisions

The development must be provided with a system of water supply that provides each use with an adequate supply of water. If the project is to be served by a public water supply, the applicant must secure and submit a written statement from the supplier that the proposed water supply system conforms with its design and construction standards, will not result in an undue burden on the source of distribution system, and will be installed in a manner adequate to provide needed domestic and fire protection flows.

There is water on-site, but it is not required for this structure.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.4.2 Sewage Disposal Provisions

The development must be provided with a method of disposing of sewage which is in compliance with the State Plumbing Code. If provisions are proposed for on-site waste disposal, all such systems must conform to the Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules.

There is an existing on-site septic system and bathroom facilities on the site, however the greenhouse does not require sewage disposal.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.4.3 Utilities

The development must be provided with electrical, telephone, and telecommunication service adequate to meet the anticipated use of the project. New utility lines and facilities must be screened from view to the extent feasible. If the service in the street or on adjoining lots is underground, the new service must be placed underground.

Electrical service will be underground from the main barn to the greenhouse.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.4.4 Fire Protection

The Fire Chief or his/her designee shall review the site plan for conformance with the Fire Protection Ordinance and may provide the Town Planner a list of suggested conditions of approval.

This is an application for a greenhouse; there are no life safety concerns for this unmanned facility.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.5 Water Protection

10.5.1 Groundwater Protection

The proposed site development and use must not adversely impact either the quality or quantity of groundwater available to abutting properties or to the public water supply systems. Applicants whose projects involve on-site water supply or sewage disposal systems with a capacity of two thousand (2,000) gallons per day or greater must demonstrate that the groundwater at the property line will comply, following development, with the standards for safe drinking water as established by the State of Maine.

The growing of vegetables will not adversely impact the quantity or quality of groundwater available to abutting properties. There is an existing artisan drilled well on-site well that has provided ample water in the past.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.5.2 Water Quality

All aspects of the project must be designed so that:

10.5.2.1 No person shall locate, store, discharge, or permit the discharge of any treated, untreated, or inadequately treated liquid, gaseous, or solid materials of such nature, quantity, obnoxious, toxicity, or temperature that may run off, seep, percolate, or wash into surface or groundwaters so as to contaminate, pollute, or harm such waters or cause nuisances, such as objectionable shore deposits, floating or submerged debris, oil or scum, color, odor, taste, or unsightliness or be harmful to human, animal, plant, or aquatic life.

10.5.2.2 All storage facilities for fuel, chemicals, chemical or industrial wastes, and biodegradable raw materials, must meet the standards of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and the State Fire Marshall's Office.

The greenhouse will not involve storage of any hazardous materials that would adversely affect the quality of groundwater.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.5.3 Aquifer Protection

If the site is located within the Town Aquifer Protection Area, a positive finding by the Board that the proposed plan will not adversely affect the aquifer is required.

The site is not located in an aquifer protection area.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.6 Floodplain Management

If any portion of the site is located within a special flood hazard area as identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, all use and development of that portion of the site must be consistent with the Town's Floodplain Management Ordinance.

The site is located in an area of minimal flooding (Class C) as shown on FEMA floodplain map 2301620015B.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.7 Historic and Archaeological Resources

If any portion of the site has been identified as containing historic or archaeological resources, the development must include appropriate measures for protecting these resources, including but not limited to, modification of the proposed design of the site, timing of construction, and limiting the extent of excavation.

There are no apparent historic or archaeological resources on the site. There will be no excavation required for the construction of the storage buildings.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.8 Exterior Lighting

The proposed development must have adequate exterior lighting to provide for its safe use during nighttime hours, if such use is contemplated. All exterior lighting must be designed and shielded to avoid undue glare, adverse impact on neighboring properties and rights - of way, and the unnecessary lighting of the night sky.

There are no exterior lights required or proposed.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.9 Buffering and Landscaping

10.9.1 Buffering of Adjacent Uses

The development must provide for the buffering of adjacent uses where there is a transition from one type of use to another use and for the screening of mechanical equipment and service and storage areas. The buffer may be provided by distance, landscaping, fencing, changes in grade, and / or a combination of these or other techniques.

10.9.2 Landscaping

Landscaping must be provided as part of site design. The landscape plan for the entire site must use landscape materials to integrate the various elements on

site, preserve and enhance the particular identity of the site, and create a pleasing site character. The landscaping should define street edges, break up parking areas, soften the appearance of the development, and protect abutting properties.

There is no landscaping or buffering proposed as there is an existing tree line around the property and the greenhouse will not be visible to any abutting properties other than to the applicant's parent's farm.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.10 Noise

The development must control noise levels such that it will not create a nuisance for neighboring properties.

The proposed greenhouse will not produce noise that would be a nuisance for neighboring properties.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.11 Storage of Materials

10.11.1 Exposed nonresidential storage areas, exposed machinery, and areas used for the storage or collection of discarded automobiles, auto parts, metals or other articles of salvage or refuse must have sufficient setbacks and screening (such as a stockade fence or a dense evergreen hedge) to provide a visual buffer sufficient to minimize their impact on abutting residential uses and users of public streets.
10.11.2 All dumpsters or similar large collection receptacles for trash or other wastes must be located on level surfaces which are paved or graveled. Where the dumpster or receptacle is located in a yard which abuts a residential or institutional use or a public street, it must be screened by fencing or landscaping.
10.11.3 Where a potential safety hazard to children is likely to arise, physical screening sufficient to deter small children from entering the premises must be provided and maintained in good condition.

There will be no storage areas or trash receptacles located outside of the greenhouse.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.12 Capacity of the Applicant
The applicant must demonstrate that he / she has the financial and technical capacity to carry out the project in accordance with this ordinance and the approved plan.

The applicant has been farming the site for many years and has the financial and technical capacity to carry out the construction of the greenhouse building as proposed in the amendment application.

The Town Planner finds the standards of this section have been met.

10.13 Design and Performance Standards

10.13.1 Route 100 Design Standards

All development in the Village Center Commercial, Village Office Commercial I and II, and the MUZ Districts shall be consistent with the Town of Cumberland Route 100 Design Standards; in making determination of consistency, the Planning Board may utilize peer review analysis provided by qualified design professionals

10.13.2 Route 1 Design Guidelines

All development in the Office Commercial North and Office Commercial South districts is encouraged to be consistent with the Route 1 Design Guidelines.

10.13.3 Town Center District Performance Standards

All development in the Town Center District is encouraged to be consistent with the Town Center Performance Standards.

10.13.4 Village Mixed Use Performance Standards

All development in the Village Mixed Use Zone is encouraged to be consistent with the VMUZ Performance Standards.

None of the above design or performance standards apply to this project.

SECTION 11: LIMITATION OF APPROVAL

Construction of the improvements covered by any site plan approval must be substantially commenced within twelve (12) months of the date upon which the approval was granted. If construction has not been substantially commenced and substantially completed within the specified period, the approval shall be null and void.

SECTION 12: STANDARD CONDITION OF APPROVAL

This approval is dependent upon and limited to the proposals and plans contained in the application and supporting documents submitted by the applicant.

PROPOSED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

1. A building permit and electrical permit are required prior to commencement of construction.