

2/11/14

I moved to 81 Lovett Road 47 years ago when the street was still under construction. Lovett Road is a narrow residential street with 24 houses and a cul de sac. All the houses were built on the same size lot. They were approximately the same height and depth and centered on their respective lots. The new construction at 78 Lovett Road is the only house that features a front wall and a rear wall. These walls look like orange cinder blocks which are used at commercial locations such as Dunkin Donuts and CVS. The rear wall which is visible from the street is not within Newton's 4 foot limit and instead features three 4 foot tiered walls totaling 12 feet in height.

The original hill in the rear was removed to accommodate the depth of the new house. Because this house is no longer centered in the middle of the lot, I am forced to view the majority of the back wall (right rear side and behind driveway) which I estimate is about 30 feet long and 12 feet high. This is an eyesore! It looks like stadium seating.

I know now that this wall is illegal. I am concerned that there could be a drainage problem. When it rains or snows, I see water stains on the wall. When there is excessive rainfall or flooding, will the earth also seep through the wall? Will frozen

snow expand and destabilize the front and rear walls toppling the structure?

Over the years, there has been a water problem in several of the basements on that side of the street. The original home at 78 Lovett Road was one of those.

In conclusion, I think both the front and rear walls should be removed. The height of the rear wall should not be higher than 4 feet as stipulated by Newton's zoning laws. I suggest that alternate materials be used so to avoid potential drainage problems, maintain the aesthetic beauty of Lovett Road and the Garden City and protect the resale value of my house.

## **LIGHTS**

I filed a Request for Zoning Enforcement with the City of Newton on November 15, 2013. To date, it has not been addressed. My complaint regarding the excessive exterior lighting includes 8 front lights. Two of these lights are **commercial high pressure sodium lights** which illuminate my entire home, penetrate the windows and cause the trees to reflect on the siding and window shades. They are annoying and disturb the tranquility of my home (photos are available).

*Respectfully submitted  
Sandra M. Segal*