From: <u>bruceefletcher@verizon.net</u>

To: Malcolm Ragan
Subject: 38 Hiley Brook Rd

**Date:** Tuesday, February 14, 2023 1:26:03 PM

Hi Malcolm,

I'm following up on an earlier phone conversation regarding an urgent tree matter at 38 Hiley Brook Rd.

I received a call as Tree Warden this morning from the resident at that address about a large pine tree near the road that was split down the middle and threatening to fall. I visited the site and determined that the tree is outside my jurisdiction, well onto private property. The homeowner informed me that the Planning Board put a restriction on his deed preventing him from cutting any trees within 60 feet of the road.

The tree in question is clearly a hazard, threatening the road, the power lines, the driveway to the residence, and anyone who might be unfortunate enough to be underneath it when it goes. Not only is it a hazard, but it's an urgent public safety matter, in my professional opinion.

The homeowner notified Hudson Light & Power while I was on site, and they responded immediately, arriving shortly after I left. The HLP superintendent called me and expressed his desire to have the tree removed as soon as possible, indicating that the homeowner was willing to call a tree company but needed assurance that he wasn't going to get in trouble with the Town.

I notified the Building Inspector who agreed that public safety would take precedence in this case. He said he would advise the homeowner.

Hopefully, all interested parties will understand that common sense and public safety should trump any tree cutting restriction on this property.

Regards, Bruce

Bruce E. Fletcher Tree Warden (978) 430-6359