

***BYRON TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
SPECIAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 4, 2007
MINUTES***

The special meeting of the Byron Township Board of Appeals was called to order by Chairman Abe VanderWoude on Tuesday September 4, 2007, at 8:00 a.m. at the Byron Township Offices, 8085 Byron Center Ave. Byron Center, MI.

Members present were: Abe Vander Woude, Seymour Gould, Jeff Brinks, Kathy Burgess, and Doug Tubergen. Members absent were: James Haagsma. Mr. Randy Zomerlei, Township Building Official was also present.

7:00 p.m. Zion Christian School – requesting a 7’ height variance to construct a fence in the front yard (Section 4.37) for the property located at 7555 Byron Center Ave. SW.

Mr. Jeff Brinks read the public notice. All property owners within 300’ of the subject property were notified and no written responses were received.

Mr. Jason Herrema was present to represent Zion Christian School. Mr. Herrema explained that the school is growing and has expanded its playground area. They are requesting the variance in order to promote the safety of the students. The higher fence would help prevent balls from going into 76th Street as well as be a deterrent from kids climbing the fence.

There were no members of the public present to comment on the request.

Brinks asked the applicant what type of fence they are proposing. The applicant indicated that the fence would be black coated chain link to match the other fence around the playground.

VanderWoude asked how the height of the fence was determined. Mr. Herrema indicated that there wasn’t really a method they used to determine the proposed height. They just looked at the area and are requesting what seems to make the most sense.

VanderWoude indicated that he had looked around at other fences around the Township and hadn’t seen anything as high as what is being requested.

A motion was made by Gould supported by Tubergen to grant a 5 foot height variance to construct a fence in a front yard (8 foot fence height).

Roll call vote: Burgess - yes. Gould – yes. Brinks - yes. Tubergen - yes. VanderWoude - yes. Motion carried. Variance granted.

Adjournment

8:20 a.m. It was moved by Gould supported by Burgess to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye. Motion Carried.

Jeff Brinks
Secretary of Board of Appeals