

***BYRON TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
REGULAR MEETING – January 28, 2009
MINUTES***

The regular meeting of the Byron Township Board of Appeals was called to order by Chairman Abe VanderWoude on Wednesday, January 28, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., at the Byron Township Offices, 8085 Byron Center Ave., Byron Center, MI.

Members present were: Abe VanderWoude, Tim Newhouse, Dan Barron, Randall Jonker and Alternate Joe Pitsch. Absent: James Haagsma. Also present was Township Building Inspector Randy Zomerlei and Recording Secretary LaVonne Kuiper.

Welcome New Members

Chairman VanderWoude welcomed Tim Newhouse, Dan Barron, Randy Jonker and Joe Pitsch as new members to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Joe Pitsch will be serving as the alternate member and will be called on to vote when a board member is absent. When all Board members are present the alternate member can comment on a given variance request but will not be called on to vote.

Miscellaneous

Chairman VanderWoude commented that we normally elect officers at the March meeting but since we need a secretary he asked if someone would please make a motion to nominate someone to be the secretary for the months of February and March.

A motion was made by Tim Newhouse, supported by Randy Jonker to nominate Dan Barron to serve as Secretary for the months of February and March.

All voted aye. Motion carried.

Jon Bratt – requesting a variance to construct two billboards for the property located at 6147 Burlingame Ave. The following variances are being requested: (adjourned at the July 23, 2008 meeting)

East Billboard:

- 1. A 200' setback variance from an existing residence. (17.6 (3))**
- 2. A 65' setback from an adjoining public right-of-way. (17.6 (4))**
- 3. A 372 sq ft., billboard area variance.**
- 4. A variance to erect a billboard on a property that is occupied by another use. (17.6).**

West Billboard:

- 1. A variance to erect a billboard on a property that is occupied by another use. (17.6)**
- 2. A 223' setback variance from a residential zone. (17.6 (3))**
- 3. A 65' setback variance from an adjoining public right-of-way. (17.6 (4))**
- 4. A 372 sq ft., billboard area variance. (17.6 (5) & (4)).**

For the benefit of the new members Chairman VanderWoude explained the request from Jon Bratt for the construction of two billboards for the property located at 6147 Burlingame Ave. He stated that the Board has been adjourning this request since July. A letter was received from Jon Bratt requesting to table this until further notice, but according to the Byron Township Ordinance Section 21.10 (2) the Board of Appeals must recess or adjourn a request to a specific time and date. Since we had not heard from Mr. Bratt for some time it was decided to have someone contact Mr. Bratt to find out what his intentions were. At that meeting Abe agreed to contact him. He did talk to him and did not receive an answer. Mr. Bratt was concerned about the fees that he had paid and Abe told him if he withdrew his application a full refund would be made. Since he has not heard anything from Mr. Bratt this will have to be recessed again for another month.

Chairman VanderWoude commented that there is a possibility that there will not be a need to have a Board of Appeals meeting next month so the motion should include two different dates.

A motion was made by Tim Newhouse supported by Randy Jonker to adjourn this request until the February 25, 2009 meeting at 7:00 p.m. and if no meeting is held to adjourn this request until the March 25, 2009 meeting at 7:00 p.m.

All voted aye. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – December 22, 2008

A motion was made by Tim Newhouse supported by Joe Pitsch to approve the minutes as written.

All votes aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment

7:19 p.m. It was moved by Randy Jonker supported by Tim Newhouse to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Dan Barron
Secretary of Zoning Board of Appeals