

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
April 14, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Abent.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Abent, ViceChairman Reed, Boardmembers Konietzko, Kruger and Alternate Shirvell.

Absent: Boardmember Patrick (excused) and Alternate Potter.

City staff present: Building Inspector Hummel and Deputy City Clerk Terpstra.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Board member Kruger moved, supported by Konietzko to approve the minutes of January 13, 2009 as presented. Carried. 5 Yeas. 0 Nays.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

APPEAL TO BE CONSIDERED

Public Hearing: 205 E. Lawrence at 6:05 P.M.

Deputy Clerk Terpstra read the appeal of 205 E. Lawrence – Autoglass of Michigan, Inc. requesting a variance of 8 ft. 4 in. for a 1 ft. 8 in. sideyard setback along Washington Street to allow for remodeling the existing structure into an office area/shop and add on a repair area to the north for auto glass repair. There were no calls or letters received on this appeal.

Ryan Halsey, representing (Harmon Auto Glass) Autoglass of Michigan, Inc., stated that the lease is up at their current location and they are running out of room. They would like to add on to the current Sharon Café building. They would then vinyl side the entire building and replace all of the windows, remove the roof sign, move the front door to the right side of the building with handicap access and pave the front parking area.

ViceChairman Reed asked if this would cause any problems with response to the fire department. Inspector Hummel stated that it would not since only half of the volunteers are now responding to this station.

Mr. Halsey stated that they only have four employees, which drive their vehicles home and one office gal. Customers normally drop off their car and then pick it back up. They are hoping this would give their customers a better opportunity to shop downtown since their current location does not allow that access.

Boardmember Konietzko questioned what they were planning to do with signage.

Mr. Halsey stated that will conform with the ordinance requirements.

Public Hearing Closed: 6:15 p.m.

Boardmember Kruger moved, supported by Shirvell to grant the variance for 205 E. Lawrence, to allow the 8 ft. 4 in. variance for a 1 ft. 8 in. sideyard setback along Washington St. for the remodeling and addition to the current building as it would be a vast improvement over the current structure and an overall benefit to the city. It is a unique situation and will help the downtown area. Carried. 5 Yeas. 0 Nays.

EXTENSION REQUEST:

Public Hearing: 1065 Mikesell St. at 6:16 p.m.

Deputy Clerk Terpstra read the extension request by Spartan Motors requesting a one year extension for the variance granted in February 2008 to allow for a portable building to remain at 1065 Mikesell Street. There were no calls or letters received on this request.

Public Hearing Closed: 6:25 p.m.

Boardmember Konietzko moved, supported by Reed to grant a one year extension to allow the portable building to remain for one more year at the current location for the purpose of temporary engineering support groups. Carried. 5 Yeas. 0 Nays.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Abent moved to adjourn at 6:30 P.M.

Ginger L. Terpstra, Deputy City Clerk