

Porter Township Zoning Board of Appeals

Meeting Minutes

August 4, 2022

Call to Order: Josh Hendricks called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM at the Porter Township Admin Building. Pledge to the Flag was given by those in attendance.

Roll Call: Roll call was taken. Those not in attendance was Mike Schirott, Chad Niblock, and Terry Schutter. Those in attendance were Al Newvine, Louis Harrington, Josh Hendricks, and Tommy Harman.

Minutes Approval Due to Mike's absence prior minutes were not reviewed. In September the meeting minutes for June, July and August will need to be approved.

Old Business: Louis Harrington brought up that a previously approved variance for Jeff and Debra Bonta from February 3, 2022 application number 21-535. The variance request that was approved was for a renovation to a existing structure to include a 2 car garage. The garage would be no closer than 18 inches from the lot line on the east side. This was approved by the ZBA board. Louis believes the home was torn down and therefore the side yard setbacks should have reverted to current ordinances. Josh Hendricks advised that he check with the building inspector to find out further details on what occurred. Josh will report back in the September meeting.

New Business: Application 22-622 as it applies to 70713 Hilltop Dr, Union, MI, parcel 14-120-216-032-10. The applicants late husband Bart Smith had pulled a building permit originally on 11/2/2017 to construct a 4,800 sq ft barn dominium with the condition that upon completion he would remove the modular home on the property. The barn has been built but the living area has not been finished. This permit has been renewed several times. The applicant received a letter from Rich Drews on 1/19/2022 of the expired permit. The permit renewed 2/3/22 giving the applicant 6 months to complete the project and pull a demo permit for the modular home. The variance request is for the board to consider allowing the applicant not finish the living quarters in the barn, keep the modular home on the property and grant a variance for its current size.

Kristine Smith along with Paul Delano were there to present the request to the board. Paul presented the board with the request. Paul also presented the board with signatures from 5 neighboring properties supporting the variance request. Those names are Timothy Doyle 70625 Hilltop Dr., William Rodwick 13930 Wayne Street, Julie Staien 70726 Hilltop Dr., Constance Fulmer 70703 Hilltop Dr., Karen Keck 70695 Hilltop Dr., Constance Fulmer was also present and was not against the request.

Al Newvine reported that he spoke with the applicant and looked at the building reporting that the mechanical rough ins for the living quarters are in and have been inspected.

The matter was discussed at length. The meeting was closed.

Josh Hendricks made motion to table this until next month to gather more information from the township building department. Louis Harrington seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

There are two additional variance requests for the September meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 6:41 pm, seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted by

Josh Hendricks, ZBA Board Chairman