

ONEONTA, NEW YORK – DECEMBER 23, 2013 - 7:00 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING ZONING AND HOUSING BOARD OF APPEALS PG. 1

PRESENT: Chair Ed May
Commissioner Karen Geasey
Commissioner Louis Shields
Commissioner John Rafter
Commissioner Paul Robinson

ABSENT: Commissioner Joseph Ficano
Commissioner Robert Lawson
Council Member Bob Brzozowski

Chair May called the regular meeting to order and asked the Clerk to call the roll.

PETITIONERS

There were no petitioners.

CORRESPONDENCE

City Clerk Kendall stated there was no correspondence.

AGENDA ITEMS

Chair May stated there was one item on the agenda:

Deborah Fleming; 27-31 Main Street; 300.09-3-67; Area Variance

The applicant wishes to install a 6' x 4' freestanding directory sign at this property. The proposed sign will list the businesses located in this building and will be located near the front entrance to the building

The Notice of Public Hearing appeared in The Daily Star on December 13, 2013 and 26 letters were sent to adjoining property owners within a 300' radius of the property in question.

Chair May asked who was present to speak for the appellants. Deborah Fleming of Sign Designs, Delhi, NY and Barb Roberts identified themselves. At Chair May's request, Ms. Fleming described the request. The sign will be freestanding. The previous sign at the property was 4' x 6'. The proposed new one would reverse the dimensions to 6' x 4' with a 3' clearance below the sign; the new overall height exceeds the limit in the Zoning Code. In designing the sign, she took line-of-sight and egress/ingress considerations into account and has checked with DigSafeNY.

Chair May asked if there were any questions from Board members. Hearing none, he asked whether anyone else present had comments.

Ragnhild Ericson, co-owner and manager of 33-35 Main Street asked for the exact location of the proposed sign. She suggested that an additional sign could indicate that the parking is in the rear of the building. After seeing the plans, Ms. Ericson stated that she thought the proposed location would be fine.

Chair May asked for a motion on the application.

MOTION, made by Commissioner Robinson and seconded by Commissioner Shields, that the board approve the area variance requested to allow installation of a 6' x 4' freestanding directory sign at 27-31 Main Street.

Voting Ayes: Chair May
Commissioner Geasey
Commissioner Shields
Commissioner Rafter
Commissioner Robinson

Noes: None

Absent: Commissioner Ficano
Commissioner Lawson

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair May indicated that the minutes of the November 25 meeting should have the portions of the Municipal Code related to parking (specifically §300-7, §300-61, §300-101 and §300-51b) included in the record as they were referred to extensively during discussion.

MOTION, made by Commissioner Geasey and seconded by Commissioner Robinson that the board approves the Zoning and Housing board of Appeals minutes of the regular meeting held November 25, 2013, as amended.

Voting Ayes: Chair May
Commissioner Geasey
Commissioner Shields
Commissioner Rafter
Commissioner Robinson

Noes: None

Absent: Commissioner Lawson
Commissioner Ficano

MOTION CARRIED

There being no further business to come before the board, Chair May adjourned the regular meeting at approximately 7:20 p.m.

DOUGLAS KENDALL, City Clerk

/dk