ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2022, 7:00 PM

IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE: TOWN HALL ANNEX, 57 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, CT
REMOTE ATTENDANCE: VIA ZOOM MEETING, INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED BELOW

I. CALL TO ORDER:

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

III. PUBLIC HEARING(S): (Notice requirements met, hearings may commence unless otherwise noted)

1. V202209 – Daniel Eckels, owner/applicant, request for a variance of the Ellington Zoning Regulations Section 2.1.10-Highway Clearance Setback: to reduce the front yard setback from 50ft to 36ft for a detached garage at 57 Shenipsit Street, APN 021-036-0000 in a Residential (R) zone.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. Approval of the May 2, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

2. Correspondence/Discussion:

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Next Regular Meeting Scheduled for Monday, July 11, 2022

Instructions to attend remotely via Zoom Meeting listed below. The agenda is posted on the Town of Ellington webpage (www.ellington-ct.gov) under Agenda & Minutes, Zoning Board of Appeals.

Join Zoom Meeting via link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82942677640
Meeting ID: 829 4267 7640
Passcode: 687377

Join Zoom Meeting by phone:
1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 829 4267 7640
Passcode: 687377

COMMISSIONERS: TO ASSIST IN ESTABLISHING QUORUMS REQUIRED TO CONDUCT MEETINGS, PLEASE CONTACT THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND A SCHEDULED MEETING.
Town of Ellington
Zoning Board of Appeals Application

Type of Application: ☑ Variance ☐ Appeal of Decision ☐ Auto Dealer / Repairer License

Application # V202209
Date Received 5/13/2022

Notices associated with this application will be sent to the applicant unless otherwise requested.

Owner's Information

Name: Daniel Eckles
Mailing Address: 57 Shenipsit St
Ellington CT 06029
Email: newsengland@doctors.org

WHEN NOT REQUIRED BY LAW TO MAIL NOTICE BY USPS, MAY NOTICES BE EMAILED TO YOU? ☑ Yes ☐ No
Primary Contact Phone #: 860 644 9724
Secondary Contact Phone #: 860 916 2715
Owner's Signature: [Signature] Date: 5/10/22

By signing below I certify that all information submitted with this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, that I am aware of and understand the application requirements and regulations, and acknowledge that the application is to be considered complete only when all information and documents required by the Board have been submitted. Moreover, by signing above I/we expressly provide written consent to the filing of the application and access to the site by the Board or its staff.

Applicant's Information (if different than owner)

Name: Same as owner
Mailing Address: 
Email: 

WHEN NOT REQUIRED BY LAW TO MAIL NOTICE BY USPS, MAY NOTICES BE EMAILED TO YOU? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Primary Contact Phone #: 
Secondary Contact Phone #: 
Applicant's Signature: [Signature] Date: 

By signing below I certify that all information submitted with this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, that I am aware of and understand the application requirements and regulations, and acknowledge that the application is to be considered complete only when all information and documents required by the Board have been submitted.

Street Address: 57 Shenipsit St, Ellington CT 06029
Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): 021 - 036 - 0000 Zone: R
Public Water: ☑ Yes ☐ No Public Sewer: ☑ Yes ☐ No

If not served by public water and sewer, applicant/owner shall make application to North Central District Health Department (Enfield Office).

Is parcel within 500' to any municipal boundary? ☑ Yes ☐ No
Are there any wetlands/watercourses within 100' of construction activity or within 250' of wetlands/watercourses when located in the Shenipsit Lake Drainage Basin? ☑ Yes ☐ No

Is the project in a public water supply watershed area? ☛ Yes ☐ No
If yes, applicant shall notify Connecticut Water Company and Commissioner of Public Health about the proposed project by certified mail, return receipt within 7 days of application (Sec. 3-31b). Copy of application, plans, and supporting documents must accompany notice. Proof of notice and copies of return receipts must be provided to the Planning Department.

Previous Variances related to this property? ☛ Yes ☐ No If yes, specify date 7/1/06

Requesting a Variance to Zoning Regulations Section: (For Variance Application only) sec. 31-14 - Highway

Describe Variance Request, Appeal of Decision, or Auto Dealer/Repairer License: (Attach additional sheets if needed)

Build 24' x 30' garage 11'6' from side yard & 26' from front yard setbacks

Hardship: Describe hardship and indicate why other options are unacceptable. (For Variance Application only)

Zoning regulations changed front yard setbacks from 35' to 50' requirement

See attached narrative.
Hardship for garage at 57 Shenipsit St.:

Set back was changed when development was planned for the Tyler Dr. area across the street and when development fell thru setback was not changed back to the original.

Setback now cuts directly thru middle of the house. We were approved a variance when we remodeled the existing house apprx. 16 years ago and would like to build the garage so it lines up with the house (not porch).

Proximity to septic is also a consideration
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022, 7:00 PM

IN PERSON ATTENDANCE: TOWN HALL ANNEX, 57 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, CT
REMOTE ATTENDANCE: ZOOM MEETING
(ATTENDEES BELOW WERE IN PERSON UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

PRESENT: Chairman Art Aube, Vice Chairman Sulakshana Thanvanthri, Regular members Ken Braga, Katherine Heminway, Subhra Roy and Alternate Ron Stomberg

ABSENT: Alternate Rodger Hosig and Ron Brown

STAFF PRESENT: John Colonese, Assistant Town Planner/Zoning Enforcement Officer and Barbra Galovich, Recording Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Aube called the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS): None

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. V202206 – Nora & David Belanger, owner/applicant, request for a variance of the Ellington Zoning Regulations Section 3.2.3-Minimum Yard Setbacks: to reduce the side yard setback from 10ft to 3ft and the front yard setback to the private roadway from 35ft to 1ft to replace an existing garage with a larger garage at 3 Private Grounds 2, APN 148-060-0000 in a Lake Residential (LR) zone.

Time: 7:01 pm
Seated: Aube, Thanvanthri, Braga, Heminway and Roy

Rachel Dearborn, Landmark Surveys, LLC, 62 Lower Butcher Road, was present to represent the application.

Ms. Dearborn stated the property owners are looking to replace an existing 18’x18’ shed with a 24’x18’ shed in the same location. She said that since Private Grounds 2 is a private road, they used the sewer easement as the road frontage. She said they are requesting a 1 foot setback to the sewer easement and a 3 foot setback to the side property line.

Commissioner Braga asked if the owners would be willing to place the shed a little farther from the sewer easement. Ms. Dearborn noted the actual edge of the private road is about 6 feet from the existing shed which they would prefer not to change.
Mr. Colonese stated that the edge of the sewer easement is not a front property line however the Board has used this as a distinction in the past when reviewing setback requests along private roads where no front property line is present. He said the Public Works Director commented that no structures or plantings should be within the sanitary sewer easement. Ms. Dearborn noted the sewer easement runs through the parcel and said there will be no work within the sewer easement.

No one from the public spoke regarding the application.

**MOVE (AUBE), SECONDED (THANVANTHR) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR V202206.**

**MOVED (AUBE), SECONDED (THANVANTHR) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE WITH CONDITIONS V202206 – Nora & David Belanger, owner/applicant, request for a variance of the Ellington Zoning Regulations Section 3.2.3-Minimum Yard Setbacks: to reduce the side yard setback from 10ft to 3ft and the front yard setback to the private roadway from 35ft to 1ft to replace an existing garage with a larger garage at 3 Private Grounds 2, APN 148-060-0000 in a Lake Residential (LR) zone.**

**CONDITION(S):**
1) Approval based on plan titled, “Proposed Shed Improvement Location Survey Prepared for Nora & David Belanger 3 Private Grounds No. 2 Ellington, Connecticut Date 4/11/2022 Job No. 20803-3R1” by Landmark Surveys LLC.

Hardship: Lot configuration; keeping the same setbacks as the existing shed.

2. V202207 – SJM Properties LLC, owner/ Seth Carson, applicant, request for a variance of the Ellington Zoning Regulations Section 2.1.7-Construction in Required Yards: to allow a solid fence 8ft in height in the front yard setback area along Berr Avenue at 162 Maple Street, APN 072-028-0000 in a Planned Commercial (PC) zone.

**Time:** 7:09 pm

**Seated:** Aube, Thanvanthri, Braga, Heminway and Roy

Seth Carlson, SJM Properties, LLC, 162 Maple Street was present to represent the application.

Mr. Carlson explained they are planning to construct a small storage facility, which will consist of three one story storage buildings along Berr Avenue. They are requesting a variance to allow an 8’ fence for privacy and security surrounding the project area. Mr. Carlson stated they would like to construct a chain link fence and arborvitaes. Vice-Chairman Thanvanthri asked if there are any wetlands on the site. Mr. Carlson replied there are no wetlands and there is a stockpile of topsoil on the site. Chairman Aube asked for clarification if the owner is planning the chain link or stockade fencing as the plan shows a stockade fence with evergreens in front. Mr. Carlson stated they would prefer the chain link fence and evergreens. He noted the access to the public will be during normal business hours. Commissioner Heminway stated she would prefer to see the chain link fencing with the arborvitaes rather than the solid stockade fencing. Mr. Colonese recommended the approval allow for either style as the Planning & Zoning Commission may require a certain type.

No one from the public spoke regarding the application.

**MOVED (HEMINWAY), SECONDED (BRAGA) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR V202207.**
MOVED (HEMINWAY), SECONDED (BRAGA) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE WITH CONDITION(S) V202207 – SJM Properties LLC, owner/ Seth Carson, applicant, request for a variance of the Ellington Zoning Regulations Section 2.1.7-Construction in Required Yards: to allow a solid fence 8ft in height in the front yard setback area along Berr Avenue at 162 Maple Street, APN 072-028-0000 in a Planned Commercial (PC) zone.

CONDITION(S):
1) Approval based on plan titled, “Preliminary Site Plan Prepared for Seals-It 162 Maple Street Ellington, CT. Date: 1/20/2022 File No. 2021-112 Sheet 1 of 1 Revisions: 3/21/2022” by Bushnell Associates, LLC.

Hardship: Security for business

3. V202208 – Jeff McKnight, owner/ Ryan Orszulak, applicant, request for a variance of the Ellington Zoning Regulations Section 7.5.1E-Earth Excavation Minimum Setbacks: to reduce the setback for stockpiling of materials to the front property line on Muddy Brook Road and all side property lines from 100ft to 15ft, and reduce the setback for stockpiling of materials to the front property line on Sadds Mill Road from 100ft to 35ft at 103 Sadds Mill Road, APN 088-021-0000 in a Rural Agricultural Residential (RAR) zone.

Time: 7:17 pm
Seated: Aube, Thanvanthri, Braga, Heminway and Roy

Ryan Orszulak, 34 Bridge Street, was present to represent the application. Mr. Orszulak is the owner of Double M Yard Supply, LLC, which is currently located on Route 83 (West Road) next to Big Y Express Carwash and sells topsoil and compost. He is looking to relocate his business to 103 Sadds Mill Road in a Rural Agricultural Residential zone. He will be demolishing the house and barn. According to the zoning regulations, any stockpiling of materials would need to be at least 100’ from any property line. He noted the whole width of the parcel is 158 feet wide and therefore would like to obtain a variance from the 100 foot requirement to a 15 foot setback for the stockpiles along Muddy Brook Road and 35 foot setback from Sadds Mill Road. The access driveway will be located on Muddy Brook Road and he intends to plant trees along the parcel where it fronts on each road. He reviewed the site plan with the Board.

Commissioner Braga asked if there will be any additional structures added to the parcel. Mr. Orszulak responded there will be no additional structures. Vice Chairman Thanvanthri asked if they are proposing any excavation. Mr. Orszulak stated they are not proposing to excavate any materials and they will only be selling imported materials. Vice Chairman Thanvanthri asked about the structural integrity of the retaining wall. Mr. Orszulak noted they will reinforce the retaining wall if needed. Vice Chairman Thanvanthri asked about the drainage on site. Mr. Orszulak responded the way the site is sloped, water will flow away from Muddy Brook Road. Chairman Thanvanthri asked about the proposed height of the stockpiles. Mr. Orszulak stated the stockpiles will not exceed 16 feet in height.

Mr. Orszulak noted his business at the current location on West Road is occupying one acre of land and he plans to utilize approximately the same amount at 103 Sadds Mill Road.

No one from the public spoke regarding the application.

MOVED (BRAGA), SECONDED (HEMINWAY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR V202208.
MOVED (AUBE), SECONDED (HEMINWAY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE WITH CONDITION(S) V202208 – Jeff McKnight, owner/ Ryan Orszulak, applicant, request for a variance of the Ellington Zoning Regulations Section 7.5.1E-Earth Excavation Minimum Setbacks: to reduce the setback for stockpiling of materials to the front property line on Muddy Brook Road and all side property lines from 100ft to 15ft, and reduce the setback for stockpiling of materials to the front property line on Sadds Mill Road from 100ft to 35ft at 103 Sadds Mill Road, APN 088-021-0000 in a Rural Agricultural Residential (RAR) zone.

CONDITION(S):
1) Approval based on plan titled, “Double M Yard Supply LLC - Sales Yard - Site Plan, Received April 12, 2022 Town of Ellington Planning Department”.

Hardship: Lot configuration

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. Approval of the April 4, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOVED (BRAGA), SECONDED (HEMINWAY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE APRIL 4, 2022 MEETING AS WRITTEN.

2. Correspondence/Discussion:

V. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED (BRAGA), SECONDED (THANVANTHRI) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE ZBA MEETING AT 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Barbra Galovich, Recording Clerk