

**FRANKLIN ZONING BOARD
REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Zoning Board met remotely through the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87406057033>

Wednesday, July 1, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes

Call to Order

- ☐ **Reading of the Virtual Meeting Authorization – read by Planning Director Richard Lewis**

- ☐ **Salute to the Flag**

- ☐ **Roll Call:** Members present by rollcall: Debbie Davis [at home with husband], Chairman Glen Feener [at home, alone], Kathlene Fleckenstein [at home, alone], Jeffrey Dickinson [at home, alone], and Cecile Cormier [at home, alone]. Members absent by rollcall: David Testerman and Robert Hubble. Also in attendance, Planning and Zoning Director Richard Lewis and Administrative Assistant Cheryl Fisher [at P&Z office].

❖ **Seat Alternates – Cecile Cormier is seated for David Testerman.**

- ☐ **Approval of Minutes of the February 5, 2020 Public Meeting of the Board.** Motion to approve minutes as written by Member Fleckenstein and seconded by Member Dickinson. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 5-0-0.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Z20-03: Jason & Jennifer Remillard, applicants, are seeking an Agricultural Waiver and a Variance from Zoning Section 305-14 Lot/Yard to construct a chicken coop 10 feet from the side property line and keep 4 chickens. The property is located at 96 Babbitt Road [Map/Lot 133-406-01] in the RS [Single Family Residential] zoning district.

Ms. Jennifer Remillard dialed in from home. Two of her children were present. Ms. Remillard stated that they wanted to keep chickens in their backyard. In fact, the chickens have been in the yard with temporary approval from Planning Director Richard Lewis for the past six weeks and there hasn't been any complaints from the neighbors. She states that they are an organic family and due to the pandemic, the cost of eggs has risen quite a bit, so it seemed like a good idea to have their own chickens and eggs. She feels that the chickens will also help with the tick population in her yard. The run is inside the enclosure, so the chickens will not be free-ranging.

Member Cormier asked about the sewer system. Ms. Remillard said they were on the City sewer system.

Chairman Feener asked if they had any roosters. Ms. Remillard stated that there won't be any roosters.

Member Davis asked if the neighbors had been informed about the chickens and Ms. Remillard said that all the abutting neighbors are okay with the chickens.

No one from the public called in with questions or concerns. Member Davis stated that she didn't have any concerns. Director Lewis reminded the Board that there have been numerous agricultural waivers for chickens over the past few years. He isn't aware of complaints from any abutters regarding the property owners who have received a waiver. His hope is that people will continue to observe the restriction about having roosters. Member Fleckenstein made a motion to approve the Agriculture waiver from Jason and Jennifer Remillard to keep four chickens at 96 Babbitt Road subject to the conditions stated in the draft Notice of Decision. Member Dickinson seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Davis, aye; Feener, aye; Fleckenstein, aye; Dickinson, aye; Cormier, aye. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0-0.

Planner's Update: No updates to discuss.

Other Business:

Public Comment:

Adjournment: Member Cormier made a motion to adjourn at 6:55 pm. Member Dickinson seconded the motion. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 5-0-0.

Minutes recorded by Cheryl Y. Fisher, Administrative Assistant, Planning & Zoning.

The next scheduled meeting of the Zoning Board of Adjustment is Wednesday, August 5, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. The deadline date for submission of applications for this meeting is Wednesday, July 15, 2020.