

Hamburg Zoning Board of Appeals Township Staff Papert Staff Report



TO: Zoning Board of Appeals

(ZBA)

FROM: Amy Steffens, AICP

HEARING May 10, 2023

DATE:

SUBJECT: ZBA 23-003

PROJECT 2620 Baseview Boulevard

SITE: TID 15-31-401-021

OWNER/ Mounir and Tamra Haurani

APPLICANT:

PROJECT:

Variance application to permit the construction of an accessory structure within the required 25-foot front yard setback from Baseview Boulevard and encroaching into a regulated wetland (25-foot front yard setback required, Section 36-215; 50-foot setback from a regulated wetland required, Section 36-293).

ZONING: Waterfront residential (WFR)

Project Description

The subject site is a 4,356-square foot lot on the north side of Baseview Boulevard; Maplevista is to the east; single-family dwellings are located to the east, west, and south. The site is improved with a 900-square foot dwelling. If approved, the variance would allow for the demolition of the dwelling and construction of an accessory structure placed on fill in the regulated wetland and Special Flood Hazard Area.

The applicant has submitted to EGLE an application to fill approximately 0.1 acres of wetlands and a portion of the 1 percent floodplain. No permit determination has been made by EGLE.

Standards of Review

In accordance with Section 36-137 of the Hamburg Township Zoning Ordinance, the ZBA's decision on this matter is to be based on findings of fact to support the standards provided below. The applicable discretionary standards are listed below in **bold typeface**, followed by Staff's analysis of the request as it relates to these standards. A variance may be granted only if the ZBA finds that all of the following standards are met:

1. That there are exceptional or extraordinary circumstances or conditions applicable to the property involved that do not apply generally to other properties in the same district or zone.

The presence of wetlands on this site makes it difficult to place a structure compliant with the Zoning Ordinance standards so there is some validity to granting relief to the property for setback standards, but the question of which setback standards that require relief is of paramount importance. Section 36-293 of the township's Zoning Ordinance, below, specifies the intent of the setback requirements from natural features.

Sec. 36-293. Natural features setback requirements.

- (a) Intent and purpose. It has been determined that, in the absence of such a minimum setback, intrusions in or onto natural features would occur, resulting in harm, impairment and/or destruction of natural features contrary to the public health, safety and general welfare and the intent and purpose of this article. This regulation is based on the police power, for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare, including the authority granted in the Township Rural Zoning Act. The setback requirements shall achieve the following objectives in relation to the required setback areas:
- (1) Protect unique wildlife habitat and habitat transition, including, without limitation, feeding, nesting, resting and traveling areas for numerous animals.
- (2) Protection of surface water runoff and water quality for pollution prevention purposes, and assistance in beneficial water recharge for drinking, irrigation and other purposes.
- (3) Provide water storage area in storm events.
- (4) Provide areas for recreational or other functional uses which are unique due to geographic relationship to natural features.
- (5) Preserve aesthetic views and areas for the enjoyment of natural resources.
- (6) Preserve threatened and endangered species habitat, including upland species.
- (7) Reduce the need for on-site and off-site stormwater storage capacity based upon the availability of a greater area or absorption and a smaller impervious area.
- (8) Stabilize and protect soil resources, including the prevention of erosion and prohibition of loss due to moving water resulting in destruction of upland, structures and infrastructure and infrastructure on the upland, and prevention of the alteration of the course of moving waters.

The 50-foot setback from a regulated wetlands applies to the whole of the township. While the State of Michigan does not have a setback requirement from a wetland, the township has made a concerted effort to preserve and protect from undue development pressure the township's wetlands system.

Staff could support a smaller structure with reduced setbacks along Baseview and Maple Vista and offers an alternative placement of a 576-square foot accessory structure as shown below. The structure would have a zero-foot from the wetlands, a ten-foot setback from Maple Vista, and a 15-foot setback from Baseview Boulevard. Staff would defer to EGLE staff for determination of Part 31 and Part 303 permit requirements for this configuration.



2. That such variance is necessary for the preservation and enjoyment of a substantial property right possessed by other property in the same zone and vicinity. The possibility of increased financial return shall not be deemed sufficient to warrant a variance.

A substantial property right is not advanced from a preferred architectural design, in this case, a design that requires not only setback variances but filling in of the township's wetlands.

3. That the granting of such variance or modification will not be materially detrimental to the public welfare or materially injurious to the property or improvements in such zone or district in which the property is located.

The applicant indicates that "the proposed accessory garage is an improvement to the existing aged shed that stands today." It is staff's opinion that removing a dilapidated shed is not an acceptable trade-off for filling in wetlands that provide for natural flood prevention,

among the environmental benefits as outlined in Section 36-293 under standard number one. Furthermore, fill was placed on this lot per an MDNR permit issued in 1989 as well as the two lots to the west to provide for development.

Staff finds that this property has previously received adequate wetlands relief and that granting the variance could be materially detrimental to the public welfare or materially injurious to the property improvements in the adjacent parcels.

4. That the granting of such variance will not adversely affect the purpose or objectives of the master plan of the Township.

One of the goals of the 2020 master plan is to "Protect, preserve, and enhance whenever possible the unique and desirable natural amenities of Hamburg Township" the Master Plan discusses preserving and maintaining the existing character of parcels along lakes. The required setback regulations are designed to help maintain the character for the area.

5. That the condition or situation of the specific piece of property, or the intended use of said property, for which the variance is sought, is not of so general or recurrent a nature.

Wetlands and floodplain are features of many parcels throughout Hamburg Township, which is why the Zoning Ordinance contemplates setback standards from a regulated wetlands.

6. Granting the variance shall not permit the establishment with a district of any use which is not permitted by right within the district.

Approval of the variance request would not permit the establishment of a use not permitted by right within the district.

7. The requested variance is the minimum necessary to permit reasonable use of the land.

Granting the variance is not the minimum necessary to permit reasonable use of the land as outlined in standards one and three.

Denial Motion

Motion to deny variance application ZBA 23-003 at 2602 Baseview Boulevard (TID 15-31-401-021) to permit the construction of an accessory structure within the required 25-foot front yard setback from Baseview Boulevard and encroaching into a regulated wetland (25-foot front yard setback required, Section 36-215; 50-foot setback from a regulated wetland required, Section 36-293).

The variances do not meet variance standards one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4), five (5), or seven (7) of Section 36-137 of the Hamburg Township Zoning Ordinance, and no practical difficulty exists on the subject site when strict compliance with the Zoning Ordinance standards is applied, as discussed at the meeting this evening and as presented in this staff report.

Attachments: Application Plans

HAMBURG TOWNSHIP
Date 02/08/2023 11:17:34 AM
Ref ZBA2023-003
Receipt 1285578
Amount \$600.00

garage

1. Date Filed: 2-7-2023

2. Tax ID #: 15-31 - 401

- 021



FAX 810-231-4295 PHONE 810-231-1000 a great place to grow .

P.O. Box 157 10405 Merrill Road Hamburg, Michigan 48139

Lot No.: 65

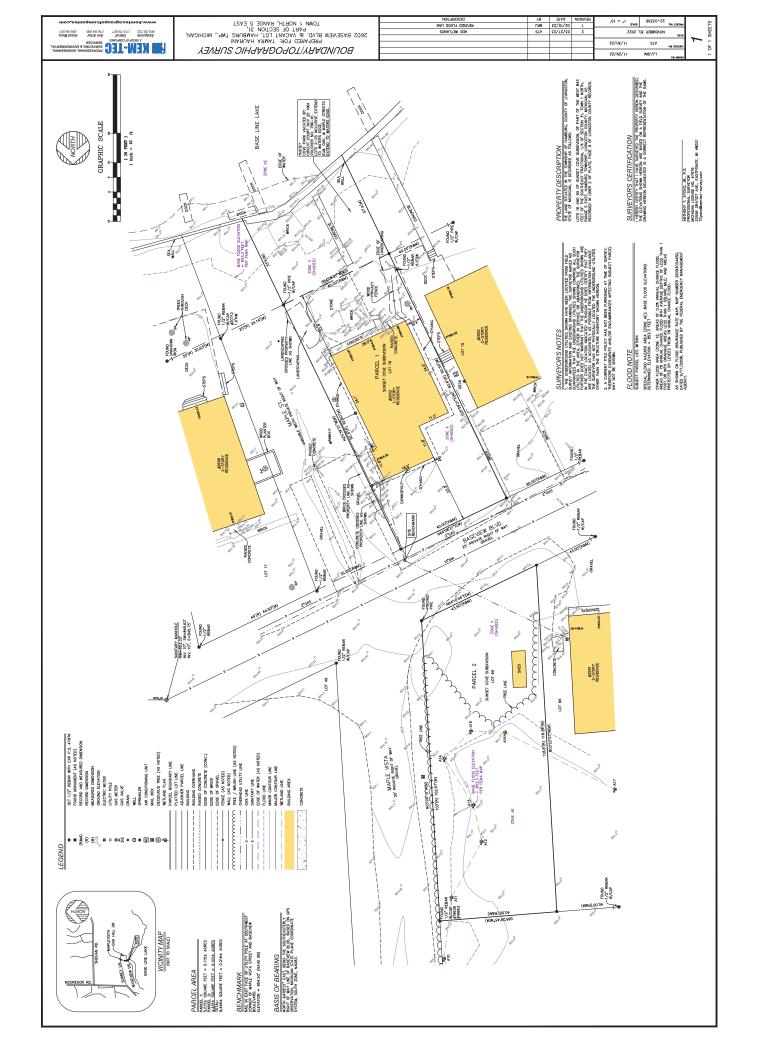
APPLICATION FOR A ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA) VARIANCE/INTERPRETATION (FEE \$500 plus \$50 each additional)

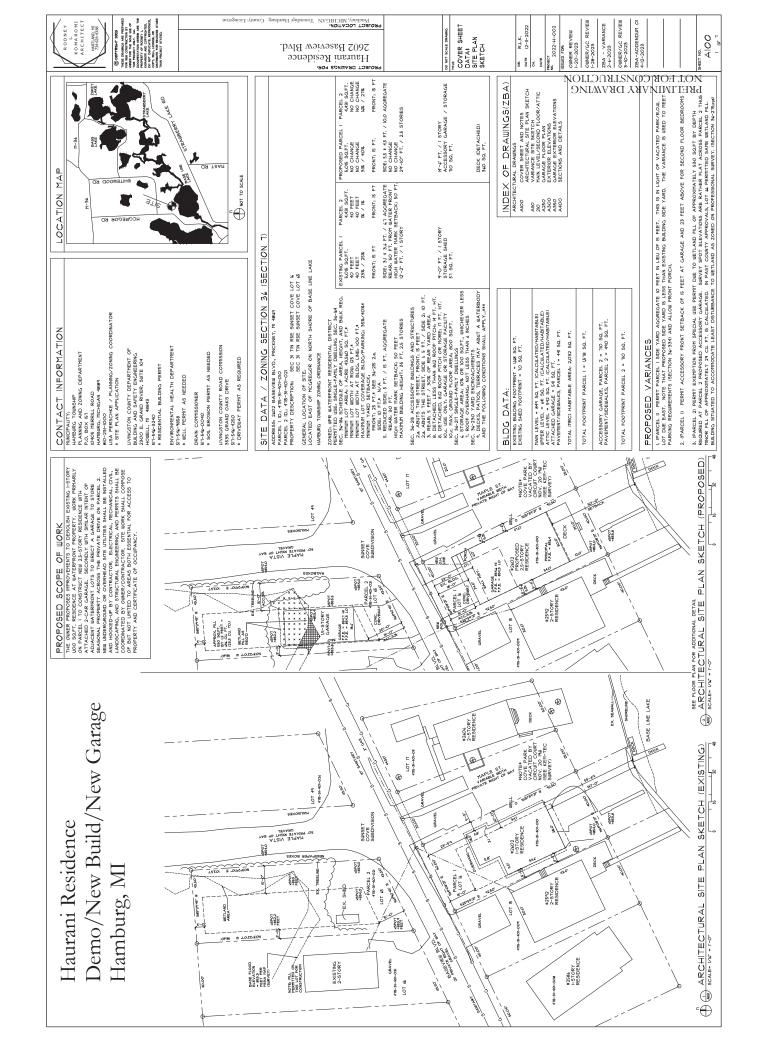
Subdivision: Sunset Cove

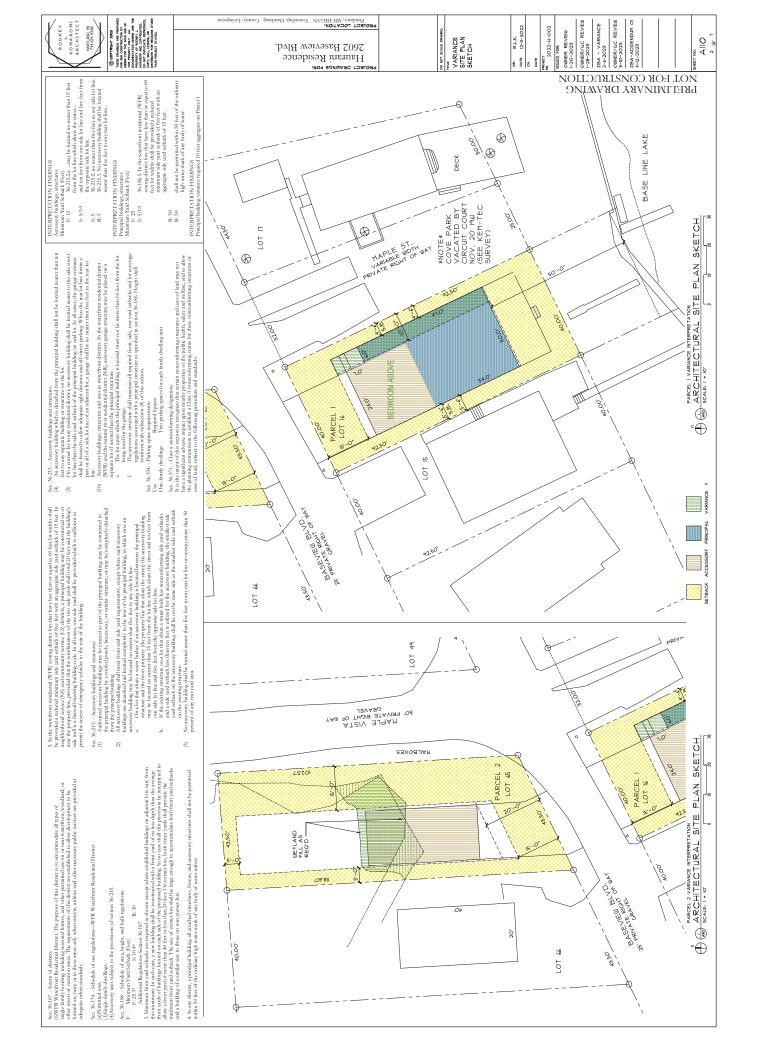
3. Address of Subject Property: 2602 Baseview	v Dr., Pinckney, MI	48169		
4. Property Owner: Mounir & Tamra Haurani		Phone: (H) 248-212-8132		
Email Address: thaurani@gmail.com		(W)_	<u>-</u>	
Street: 7598 Southview Ct.				
5. Appellant (If different than owner):				
E-mail Address:		(W)_		
Street:		City		State
6. Year Property was Acquired: 2022	Zoning 1	District: WFR	Flood Plain_part	ial, see survey
7. Size of Lot: Front 43.5' Rear 40'	Side 1_118.6'	Side 2 102.57'	Sq. Ft. 4431	
11. Dimensions of Existing Structure (s) 1st Fl	oor n/a	2nd Floor_n/a	Garage 57	sq.ft. storage shed
12. Dimensions of Proposed Structure (s) 1st F	2nd Floor_n/a	Garage 1	8.8' x 38'	
13. Present Use of Property: Residential, Single-	Family accessory			
14. Percentage of Existing Structure (s) to be d	emolished, if any_	100 %		
15. Has there been any past variances on this pa	roperty? Yes	No_XX		
16. If so, state case # and resolution of variance	application_n/a			
17. Please indicate the type of variance or zon. Water Front Residential (WFR) Permit exemption from special use permit due accessory garage. Survey spot elevations are a In past county approvals, lot 66 permitted same zoned on professional survey.	to wetland fill of	approximately 400 so	of approximately.	2 / cu. It. Is calcul
(Section 36-275;c;a)				
18. Please explain how the project meets each	of the following st	tandards:		

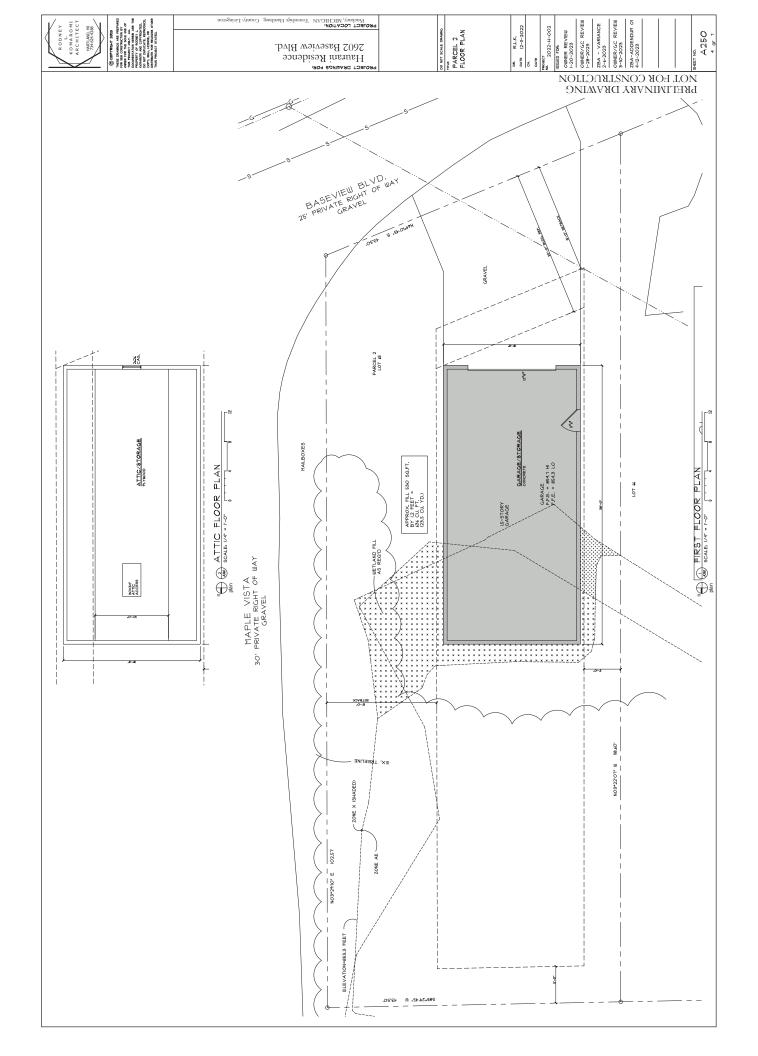
a) Strict compliance with restrictions governing area, setback, frontage, height, bulk, density or other non-use matters, will unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose or will render ordinance conformity unnecessarily burdensome. Correct. Full use and intent of the water front district does accommodate neighboring lots also featuring a single-family residence on a lakeside lot with customary or seasonal-use garage on the second lot; as would the proposed accessory garage building. b) The variance will do substantial justice to the applicant, as well as other property owners. Correct. Full use and intent of the water front district does accommodate neighboring lots also featuring a single-family residence on a lakeside lot with customary or seasonal-use garage on the second lot; as would the proposed accessory garage building. c) A lesser variance than requested will not give substantial relief to the applicant and/or be consistent with justice to other property owners. Correct. A customary less than 800 square foot accessory Garage facility (36-215;10;c) with adequate single garage door is reasonable, conforming, and fulfills the intent of the district. There is no significant adverse impact to site lines or existing newspaper boxes, or other lots. The reduction of FEMA Zone AE wetland by proper fill would allow all buildings to be located only on Flood Zone X (shaded); common to most buildings of Sunset Cove. Proposed garage conforms to the district use and less than maximum allowed area. d) The need for the variance is due to unique circumstances peculiar to the property and not generally applicable in the area or to other properties in the same zoning district. Correct. The professional survey uniquely delineates the area of wetland on the lot for proposed accessory use. The survey notes specific spot elevations and wetland designations specific to the lot. The proposed use is conforming and fulfills the intent of the district. Permitting fill is minor but necessary to level and grade sufficiently for the proposed accessory garage. e) The problem and resulting need for the variance has not been self-created by the applicant and/or the applicant's predecessors. Correct. The proposed accessory garage is an improvement to the existing aged shed that stands today. There is no detriment from the conforming use of property. Existing newspaper boxes/posts at the corner will not be effected by the new garage structure. Furthermore, Lot 66 due west has had Township approval of wetland fill at time of permit in the past according to County records. • I hereby certify that I am the owner of the subject property or have been authorized to act on behalf of the owner(s) and that all of the statements and attachments are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. · I acknowledge that approval of a variance only grants that which was presented to the ZBA. • I acknowledge that I have reviewed the Hamburg Township Zoning Ordinance, The ZBA Application and the ZBA Checklist and have submitted all of the required information. • I acknowledge that filing of this application grants access to the Township to conduct onsite investigation of the property in order to review this application. • I understand that the house or property must be marked with the street address clearly visible from the roadway. • I understand that there will be a public hearing on this item and that either the property owner or appellants shall be in attendance at that hearing. • I understand that a Land Use Permit is required prior to construction if a variance is granted. • I understand that any order of the ZBA permitting the erection alteration of a building will be void after one (1) year (12 months), unless a valid building permit is obtained, and the project is started and proceeds to completion (See Sec. 6.8 of the Township Zoning Ordinance). Appellant's Signature Date

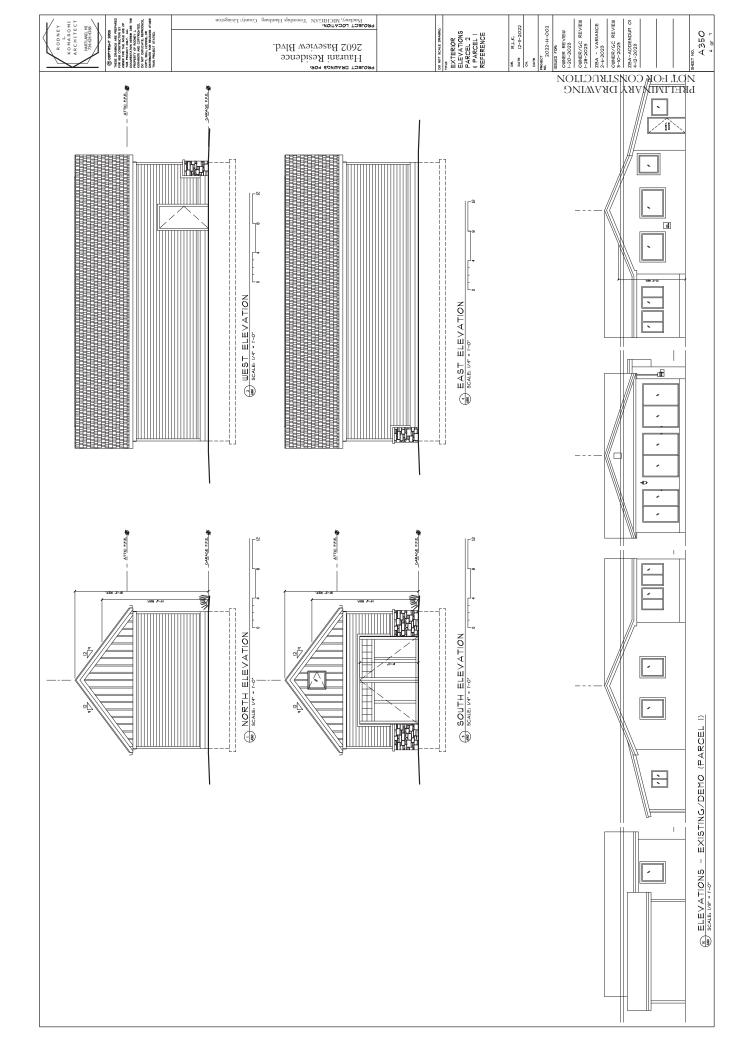
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LIVINGSTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

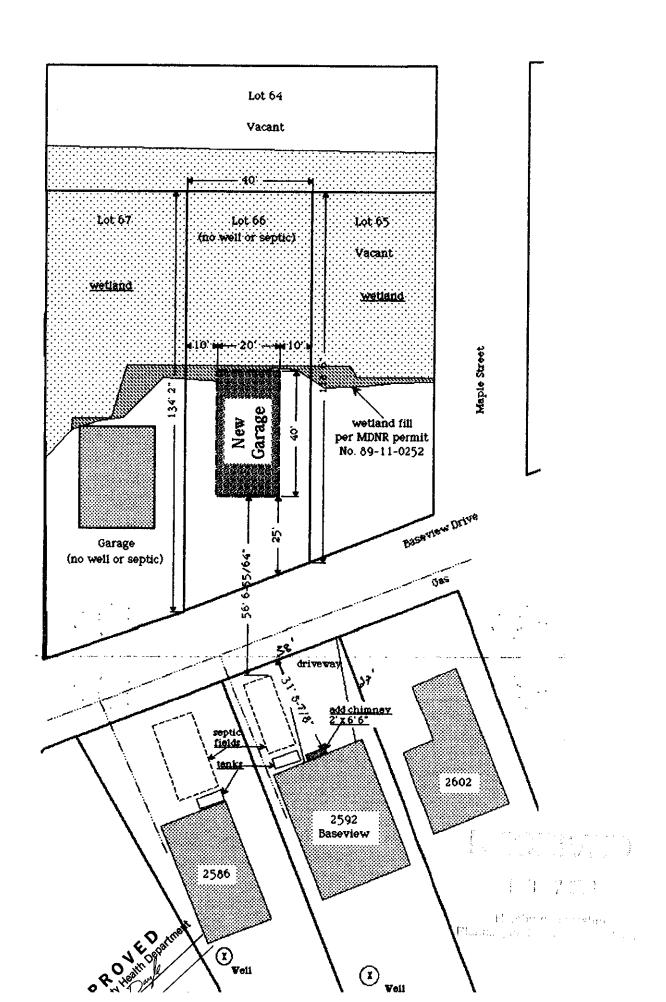
204 South Highlander Way

Howell, Michigan, 48843 (517) 546-9850 *******************

Review of Proposed Alteration or Reconstruction of Existing Dwellings (Residential Construction Only)

1597 ((2.51.5)	Pintal in the
Property Address/Location	PINCKNEY
.1.	Post Office
HAMBURG 31 Township Section N	SUNSET COVE
Township Section N	o. Subdivision
Survey A / spans	-1 -
STANLEY A. LIEBROET Owner's Name	SAME Builder's Name
0	bulluel s name
2592 BASEVIEW DRIVE	
nut coo	Address
878-3922 Phone Number	Dhane Number
Proposed use of Construction or Addition: (Please be	Phone Number
CHARGE PORTION OF HOUSE, ADD	A CHIMNER CITASE ~ 6'6" XZ ON
TO POURD FOOTING, ARANDON PRESENT	DRIVEWAY & DESIGNAR 17 AS
RESERVE SEPTIC FIELD	
8. RROLT A 20' PYO' DETACHED	SARPLE ON LOT 66 (N. SIDE OF ROM)
The undersigned, being duly authorized certifies the st	atements herein contained are true and correct and
further acknowledges he is the property owner or is act	ing as an authorized representative on behalf of the
property owner.	A 1 19 1600
Signature	Od. 19 1989
	Unice
	Date
FOR OFFICE	USE ONLY
Evaluation of onsite water supply facil	ities
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FEB 7 2023



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PARCEL 1

1. Date: 2-7-2023 2. 15-31-401-010

Subdivision: Sunset Cove

Lot No.: 16

3. 2602 Baseview Blvd.

17. Please indicate the type of variance or zoning ordinance interpretation requested:

Water Front Residential (WFR)

Permit parcel 1 side yard aggregate 10 feet in lieu of 15 feet. (36-186; footnote 5) This is in light of vacated park/R.O.W. lot due east. Note that proposed side yard is less than existing building side yard. The variance is used to meet parking requirements (section 36-334) and allow front porch.

Permit accessory front setback of 15 feet above accessory garage for bedrooms on second floor. (36-215; 1, 2.a.) (36-239; 12)

18. Please explain how the project meets each of the following standards:

a) That there are exceptional or extraordinary circumstances or conditions applicable to the property involved that do not apply generally to other properties in the same district or zone.

Due east of the residential building is a vacated park and R.O.W. thus exacerbating a minimum side setback of 30 feet and variably more; not all lots abut a vacated side yard R.O.W.

Parking does not exist on the lot; the accessory Garage will conform to parking space requirements (Sec. 36-334)

b) That such variance is necessary for the preservation and enjoyment of a substantial property right possessed by other property in the same zone and vicinity. The possibility of increased financial return shall not be deemed sufficient to warrant a variance.

Full use and intent of the water front district does accommodate neighboring lots also featuring a single-family residence on a lakeside lot with customary or seasonal-use garage on the second lot; as would the proposed single-family building. Single-family dwelling bedrooms are compatible above the garage either integral or accessory.

- c) That the granting of such variance or modification will not be materially detrimental to the public welfare or materially injurious to the property or improvements in such zone or district in which the property is located. The proposed single-family building is an improvement to the existing aged building that stands today. There is no detriment from the conforming use of property.
- d) That the granting of such variance will not adversely affect the purpose or objectives of the master plan of the Township.

The proposed use is conforming and fulfills the intent of the district.

e) That the condition or situation of the specific piece of property, or the intended use of said property, for which the variance is sought, is not of so general or recurrent a nature.

The vacated park and R.O.W. due east of the side yard is a specific, uncommon site condition in such districts as Sunset Cove.

f) Granting the variance shall not permit the establishment with a district of any use which is not permitted by right within the district;

The proposed use is conforming and fulfills the intent of the district.

g) The requested variance is the minimum necessary to permit reasonable use of the land.

A customary single-family home with adequate 2 parking spaces is reasonable, conforming, and fulfills the intent of the district. The side yard variance is minimal, necessary and has no significant adverse impact.

Parcel 2

1. Date: 2-7-2023 2. 15-31-401-021

Subdivision: Sunset Cove

Lot No.: 16 / 65

- Accessory Lot 2602 Baseview Blvd.
- 17. Please indicate the <u>type of variance</u> or <u>zoning ordinance interpretation</u> requested:

Water Front Residential (WFR)

Permit exemption from special use permit due to wetland fill of approximately 400 sq.ft by depth required at parcel 2 proposed accessory garage. Survey spot elevations are rather flat across parcel 2 thus minor fill of approximately 27 cu. ft. is calculated. In past county approvals, lot 66 permitted same wetland fill. Building situated to accommodate least disturbance to wetland as zoned on professional survey. (Section 36-275;c;a)

18. Please explain how the project meets each of the following standards:

a) That there are exceptional or extraordinary circumstances or conditions applicable to the property involved that

do not apply generally to other properties in the same district or zone.

The lot is situated between an existing road lined with newspaper boxes/posts due east and an existing garage on separate lot due west. The lot is relatively flat based on the professional survey. Proposed garage conforms to the district use.

b) That such variance is necessary for the preservation and enjoyment of a substantial property right possessed by other property in the same zone and vicinity. The possibility of increased financial return shall not be deemed sufficient to warrant a variance.

Full use and intent of the water front district does accommodate neighboring lots also featuring a single-family residence on a lakeside lot with customary or seasonal-use garage on the second lot; as would the proposed accessory garage building.

- c) That the granting of such variance or modification will not be materially detrimental to the public welfare or materially injurious to the property or improvements in such zone or district in which the property is located. The proposed accessory garage is an improvement to the existing aged shed that stands today. There is no detriment from the conforming use of property. Existing newspaper boxes/posts at the corner will not be effected by the new garage structure. Furthermore, Lot 66 due west has had Township approval of wetland fill at time of permit in the past according to County records.
- d) That the granting of such variance will not adversely affect the purpose or objectives of the master plan of the Township.

The proposed use is conforming and fulfills the intent of the district.

e) That the condition or situation of the specific piece of property, or the intended use of said property, for which the variance is sought, is not of so general or recurrent a nature.

The survey uniquely delineates the area of wetland on the lot for proposed accessory use.

f) Granting the variance shall not permit the establishment with a district of any use which is not permitted by right within the district;

The proposed use is conforming and fulfills the intent of the district.

g) The requested variance is the minimum necessary to permit reasonable use of the land. A customary less than 800 square foot accessory Garage facility (36-215;10;c) with adequate single garage door is reasonable, conforming, and fulfills the intent of the district. There is no significant adverse impact to site lines or existing newspaper boxes, or other lots. The reduction of FEMA Zone AE wetland by proper fill would allow all buildings to be located only on Flood Zone X (shaded); common to most buildings of Sunset Cove.