

VARIANCE (ZBA) APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

Eight (8) sets of plans must be submitted. The sets are for the individual use of the Zoning Board members and for the Township's records. None will be returned to you. The Land Use Permit will not be released until three (3) final construction blueprints and three (3) copies of your site plan are submitted which have been prepared according to the variances granted and conditions imposed at the appeals meeting.

Zoning Board of Appeals Application Form

Site (plot) Plan with the following information:

- Location and width of road(s) and jurisdiction (public or private road).
- Location and dimensions of existing/proposed construction.
- Dimensions, designation, and heights of existing structures on property clearly marked.
- Dimensions of property (lot lines).
- Location and dimensions of required setbacks.
- Measurement from each side of existing and proposed structure to the property lines.
- All easements.
- Any bodies of water (lake, stream, river, or canal) with water body name.
- Distance proposed structure and existing structures are from any body of water.
- Septic tank and field, sewer (grinder pump), and water well.
- All areas requiring variances clearly marked with dimensions and amount of variance requested.
- Any outstanding topographic features that should be considered (hills, drop-offs, trees, boulders, etc.)
- Any other information which you may feel is pertinent to your appeal.
- If the variance is to a setback requirement a licensed professional stamp shall be on the site plan.

Preliminary sketch plans:

a) Elevation plans:

- Existing and proposed grade
- Finished floor elevations
- Plate height
- Building height
- Roof pitch

b) Floor plans:

- Dimension of exterior walls
- Label rooms
- Clearly identify work to be done
- Location of floor above and floor below

c) All other plans you may need to depict the variance you're requesting (surveys, grading plans, drainage plans, elevation certificates, topographical surveys, etc.)

Proof of Ownership: Include one of the following:

- a) Warranty Deed – showing title transaction bearing Livingston County Register of Deeds stamps, OR
- b) Notarized letter of authorization from seller of property giving the purchaser authorization to sign a Land Use Permit.

RECEIVED

APR 07 2025

Hamburg Township
Planning and Zoning

VARIANCE PROCESS:

Once a project is submitted:

The Zoning Administrator will review your submittal to make sure you have submitted a complete set of project plans (1 week if complete).

Once the project has been deemed complete by the Zoning Administrator:

The project will be scheduled for a Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) hearing. ZBA hearings are held the second Wednesday of each month. Your project will need to be deemed complete by the Zoning Administrator a minimum of three (3) weeks prior to a hearing in order to be scheduled for that hearing.

Once the project has been scheduled for a ZBA hearing:

All property owners within a three hundred (300) foot radius of the subject property shall be notified if the date and time of the public hearing on your variance request and the basic nature of your proposed project and variances being requested, and the owner's name and address of the subject property. Notices will be sent on or before fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the hearing.

A public hearing notice stating all appeals for a given date will be published in the Tuesday edition of the Livingston County Daily Press & Argus fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the hearing.

At the ZBA meeting/hearing:

- You and/or your representative (Lawyer, builder, contractor, relative, friend, etc.) must attend.
- Variance requests/appeals are taken in order of submission.
- Unless your variance request/appeal is tabled due to lack of information, insufficiency of drawings, etc., you will know the disposition of the appeal at the meeting before you leave.
- ***No Land Use Permits will be available for pick up on the night of the meeting, so please do not ask the Zoning Administrator for them that night. You may bring the requirements for the Land Use Permit to the Township Zoning Department on the next business day.***
- In the event that the Zoning Board of Appeals **does not grant** your variance request there will be **no refund** of the filing fee, as it pays for administration costs, the member's reviewing and meeting time, and noticing costs in the newspaper and for postage.
- Rehearing requests may be charged \$200.00 for postage and newspaper costs in addition to the original \$500.00 charge, at the discretion of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Once the project has been approved:

You will need to submit a completed Land Use Permit, three (3) sets of your final construction plans and three (3) copies of your site plan from which your project will actually be constructed, before your Land Use Permit will be released. If the Board has made special conditions, they must be met before your Land Use Permit will be released.

If the project is denied:

Section 6.8 (C) of the Hamburg Township Zoning Ordinance states that a one (1) year period must elapse before a rehearing of the appeal "except on grounds of newly-discovered evidence or proof of changed conditions found upon inspection of the Zoning Board of Appeals to be valid."

Section 6.8 (E) of the Zoning Ordinance governs appeals to Circuit Court. If you desire to appeal the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals, you need to contact your attorney for filing appeals to Circuit Court.

RECEIVED

APR 02 2025

Hamburg Township
Planning and Zoning Commission

VARIANCE STANDARDS:

Variance: (definition) A modification of the literal provisions of the zoning ordinance granted when strict enforcement would cause undue hardship due to circumstances unique to the individual property for which the variance is granted.

Section 6.5 (C) & (D) of the Township Zoning Ordinance:

- A. Where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the provisions of this Zoning Ordinance would involve practical difficulties, the Zoning Board of Appeals shall have power upon appeal in specific cases to authorize such variation or modification of the provisions of this Zoning Ordinance with such conditions and safeguards as it may determine, as may be in harmony with the spirit of this Zoning Ordinance and so that public safety and welfare be secured and substantial justice done. No such variance or modification of the provisions of this Zoning Ordinance shall be granted unless it appears that, at a minimum, the applicant has proven a practical difficulty and that all the following facts and conditions exist:
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.
 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.
 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.
 4. That the granting of such variance will not adversely affect the purpose or objectives of the master plan of the Township.
 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.
 6. Granting the variance shall not permit the establishment with a district of any use which is not permitted by right within the district.
 7. The requested variance is the minimum necessary to permit reasonable use of the land.
- B. For the purpose of the above, a “practical difficulty” exists on the subject land when the strict compliance with the Zoning Ordinance standards would render conformity unnecessarily burdensome (such as exceptional narrowness, shallowness, shape of area, presence of floodplain or wetlands, exceptional topographic conditions), and the applicant has proven all of the standards set forth in Section 6.5 (C) (1) through (7). Demonstration of practical difficulty shall focus on the subject property or use of the subject property, and not on the applicant personally.
- C. In consideration of all appeals and all proposed variations to this Zoning Ordinance, the Zoning Board of Appeals shall, before making any variations from this Zoning Ordinance in a specific case, determine that the standards set forth above have been met, and that the proposed variation will not impair an adequate supply of light and air to adjacent property, or unreasonably increase the congestion in public streets, or increase the danger of fire or endanger the public safety, or unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, or in any other respect impair the public health, safety, or welfare of the inhabitants of the Township.

RECEIVED

APR 02 2025

Hamburg Township
Planning and Zoning Commission