09/10/2024

1	REGULAR MEETING - ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
2	CITY OF NOVI
3	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2024
4	Council Chambers/Novi Civic Center
5	41725 Novi Road
6	Novi, Michigan
7	
8	BOARD MEMBERS:
9	Joe Peddiboyina, Chairperson
10	Mike Longo, Secretary
11	Siddharth Mav Sanghvi, Member
12	Linda Krieger, Member
13	Jay McLeod, Member
14	W. Clift Montague, Member
15	Michael Thompson, Member
16	ALSO PRESENT:
17	Elizabeth Saarela, City Attorney
18	Alan Hall, Deputy Community Development
19	Director
20	Sarah Fletcher, Recording Secretary
21	REPORTED BY:
22	Melinda R. Womack
23	Certified Shorthand Reporter
24	
25	



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- 1 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Good evening,
- 2 and welcome to the Novi Zoning Board of Appeals.
- 3 Today is September 10, 7:00. Please, everybody
- 4 stand up. Pledge of Allegiance followed by the
- 5 Michael Longo.
- 6 (Pledge of Allegiance recited)
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.
- 8 Please be seated, and the cell phones please
- 9 muted. Roll Call.
- 10 MS. FLETCHER: Chairperson Peddiboyina?
- 11 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Yes, please.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Sanghvi?
- 13 MEMBER SANGHVI: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Thompson?
- 15 MEMBER THOMPSON: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Montague?
- 17 MEMBER MONTAGUE: Here.
- 18 MS. FLETCHER: Member Longo?
- 19 MEMBER LONGO: Here.
- 20 MS. FLETCHER: Member Krieger?
- 21 MEMBER KRIEGER: Present.
- 22 MS. FLETCHER: Member McLeod?
- MEMBER McLEOD: Here.
- MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.



- 1 And public hearing and format and rules and
- 2 conduct. And you can see everything. Approval of
- 3 minutes August 2024. Somebody make a motion for
- 4 approval for August 2024? Any changes? Any
- 5 modifications? Somebody can make a motion,
- 6 please.
- 7 MR. LONGO: I move we accept the
- 8 minutes.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Yeah. Who's
- 10 going to second?
- 11 MEMBER MONTAGUE: I'll second.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.
- 13 Say all in favor aye.
- 14 THE BOARD: Aye.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Any nays?
- 16 Thank you. Approval of agenda. Any changes? Any
- 17 modifications? This is the time where you can
- 18 change and modifications. Somebody make a motion
- 19 for the agenda.
- 20 MEMBER KRIEGER: I move to approve the
- 21 agenda as presented tonight.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Second
- 23 somebody?
- MR. LONGO: Second.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay. Thank



- 1 you. Say all in favor all.
- THE BOARD: Aye.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Any nays?
- 4 Approved. Thank you. And public remarks. This
- 5 is the time where you can speak on anything you
- 6 want to say. Public remarks. Looks like none.
- 7 Public hearing. Okay. We have today four cases
- 8 and let's go to first case. PZ24-0041 (Katherine
- 9 To) 21101 Cambridge Drive, north of Eight Mile
- 10 Road, east of Meadowbrook Road, Parcel
- 11 50-22-36-328-002. The applicant is requesting a
- 12 variance from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance
- 13 Section 4.19.1.J to allow a sixth detached
- 14 accessory structure (5 existing) for a lot having
- more than 21,780 square feet of area (maximum of
- 16 two allowed, variance of 4 additional); Section
- 17 4.19.2.A to allow an accessory structure in the
- 18 front yard (accessory structures are only
- 19 permitted in the rear yard). This property is
- 20 zoned One-Family Residential Acreage (R-A). Is
- 21 applicant present, please? Can you come to the
- 22 podium and tell your name and spell first and last
- 23 name clearly for our secretary. If you're not an
- 24 attorney, my secretary will take the oath.
- MS. TO: My name is Katherine To,



- 1 spelled K-A-T-H-E-R-I-N-E, the last name is T-O.
- 2 MEMBER LONGO: Katherine, are you an
- 3 attorney?
- 4 MS. TO: No.
- 5 MEMBER LONGO: Do you promise to tell
- 6 the truth in this case?
- 7 MS. TO: Yes.
- 8 MEMBER LONGO: Thank you. Go ahead.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: How about
- 10 you? You want to -- you're also participating?
- 11 MR. TO: Sure. My name is Chiu Yuen
- 12 To, C-H-I-U Y-U-E-N T-O. I am also the homeowner,
- 13 Katherine's husband.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.
- 15 MEMBER LONGO: Are you -- excuse me.
- 16 Are you an attorney?
- 17 MR. TO: No.
- 18 MEMBER LONGO: Do you promise to tell
- 19 the truth in this case?
- MR. TO: Yes.
- 21 MEMBER LONGO: Thank you.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay.
- 23 Perfect. Please explain where we can help you on
- 24 this case tonight.
- MS. TO: Okay. So we're the owners of



- 1 21101 Cambridge Drive. It is 29.3 acres, and the
- 2 plan from the beginning when we purchased this
- 3 being almost 30 acres was we wanted to add a
- 4 greenhouse and a garden. I love to garden, and I
- 5 wanted to have a really big space for that. So
- 6 before we even purchased the house, we had already
- 7 planned where we were going to put it. So we have
- 8 this spot perfectly in the yard, but we do need
- 9 two variances for it because there were existing
- 10 structures when we purchased the house. You know,
- 11 a couple of barns, a detached garage, a well
- 12 house, and then we added a chicken coop as well.
- 13 We have a chicken coop in our back yard, and so we
- 14 would need a variance for this sixth structure.
- 15 The other variance we need is because
- 16 it is in our side yard verses our rear yard. Our
- 17 entire backyard is protected woodlands, and we are
- 18 doing everything to keep it that way. Where we
- 19 have chosen to build this it means we wouldn't
- 20 have to take down a single tree, no grade changes.
- 21 It was already a very large -- this area is about
- 22 a half an acre, roughly, of this patch of grass
- 23 that we're going to put this in. It's right in
- 24 the middle of our property, which means -- and our
- 25 property is large enough. Ideally -- this should



- 1 not be visible to any of our neighbors from any
- 2 direction, other than basically if you were
- 3 driving up our driveway, so. And that's why we
- 4 have chosen that location there in the side yard.
- 5 We also included -- I know it does not
- 6 come in your packets because I didn't have it
- 7 drawn up at the time. The plan is, it's not just
- 8 going to be a greenhouse right in the middle of
- 9 the grass. The whole space around it is going to
- 10 be garden and landscape to create a really nice
- 11 space there. I actually have the plan here. You
- 12 guys want to see it. It was not in the packet, so
- 13 I can include that there. Our house is over here.
- 14 That's north. So this shows the size in relation.
- 15 This is the greenhouse right here, and the rest is
- 16 all going to be landscaped around it with sitting
- 17 areas, tons of gardening space. Going to be a
- 18 really nice, appealing project. Hopefully
- 19 we'll -- there will be enough up here that nothing
- 20 will be seen really from anybody. Our house is
- 21 over here so nothing will be able to be seen from
- 22 the west side either.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay. You
- 24 want to speak anything, sir?
- MR. TO: Also just my wife already



- 1 mentioned that, you know, she is an avid gardener.
- 2 Since we moved into the property we've already
- 3 planted 35 trees on a separate piece of land
- 4 that's in our property with orchards and whatnot.
- 5 So we're really trying to build and, you know,
- 6 make this a nice space rather than just having a
- 7 big development, because we really want to keep
- 8 this land as peaceful and as beautiful as we can.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay. Sounds
- 10 good. From the city?
- 11 MR. HALL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
- 12 just have a quick question. Looking at the new
- 13 graphic you presented, there's no other structures
- 14 besides the greenhouse that you're showing on
- 15 there, is that correct?
- MS. TO: No. Pretty much all of these
- 17 are in-ground beds. The only thing right here is
- 18 basically we're planning to put like a sitting
- 19 area with like an arbor growing like grapevines
- 20 over it so it kind of looks like a structure, but
- 21 it's not actually.
- MR. HALL: Yes the applicant is seeking
- 23 to get a variance for -- two variances. One is
- 24 going to be for providing a new 31 feet one inch
- 25 by 16 foot nine and a half inch glass greenhouse,



- 1 and I believe it has a 5/12 pitch from the
- 2 drawings. This would need a sixth structure on
- 3 the property. You're allowed two by ordinance, so
- 4 they'll need five additional variances for those.
- 5 So they're asking for one variance, but actually
- 6 they're going to have five that are over, if that
- 7 makes sense.
- And also, they're looking for a
- 9 structure in the front yard setback. We're not
- 10 allowed to have a front yard setback, but again,
- 11 as they mentioned, you cannot see this property
- 12 from the neighbors or public way. So with that, I
- don't have any other questions. Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.
- 15 Correspondence secretary?
- MEMBER LONGO: We mailed out 51
- 17 letters. None were returned. There were no
- 18 objections and one approval.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay. Thank
- 20 you. From the public would like to speak anything
- 21 on this case? Any objection or any approvals? If
- 22 you want to speak, this is the time to speak.
- 23 Thank you. Please, can you step up a little bit
- 24 and you can speak.
- MR. CHURELLA: Hello. My name is Mark



- 1 Churella. I live at 21705 Cambridge Drive. My
- 2 property abuts the To's property, Katherine and
- 3 Sam. I am here to strongly recommend that you
- 4 would approve this. I've been on that street for
- 5 over 28 years. They've done an amazing job with
- 6 what they have in their house. And Cambridge
- 7 Drive is different. It's different than anywhere
- 8 else in the City of Novi. And obviously, I might
- 9 not have a great deal of objectivity because I
- 10 live there, but for the last 28 years it's been
- 11 our primary family home. And the lot and the way
- 12 that it is laid out is completely different. When
- 13 the Browns, when Ed Brown passed away, we were
- 14 very concerned that there is 29 acres, and a
- 15 developer would buy it and I'd have 50 neighbors.
- 16 Instead, I have these lovely people here as our
- 17 neighbor. And again, I would strongly suggest
- 18 that you go ahead and provide the easement or the
- 19 variance.
- 20 My home can see the end of the street,
- 21 which is where they reside. You can't see
- 22 anything. I have planted 30 years ago many trees
- 23 that are on the street line. Everything that they
- 24 have would be the equivalent of being in a
- 25 subdivision and building seven blocks away. It's



- 1 just very very far. So their 29 acres is
- 2 completely different than any other development,
- 3 and there's six, currently now seven. A house was
- 4 just built for the first time in 40 years on
- 5 Cambridge Drive, and only one other buildable lot.
- 6 So the smallest lot on Cambridge I believe is two
- 7 and a half acres. I have three and a half. The
- 8 neighbors across the street that also abuts their
- 9 property, that's four and a half acres. So it's
- 10 very unique. And again, I think it's very
- 11 appropriate what they're going to build with the
- 12 greenhouse. Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you so
- 14 much. Anybody would like to speak on this case?
- 15 Okay. I would like to open to the board. And
- 16 thank you for your presentation, and thank you for
- 17 your requesting. All of my board members can act
- 18 on this case. It's open to the board. Dr.
- 19 Sanghvi.
- 20 MEMBER SANGHVI: Thank you. I came to
- 21 the property on Sunday afternoon. There is not a
- 22 single street sign, and it's a gated community.
- 23 So I drove up and down through the messy Eight
- 24 Mile Road before I found where this place was. It
- 25 is such an enormous place that you could almost



- 1 build a subdivision in that area. And their
- 2 property is so huge. How many acres there are?
- 3 MS. TO: 29.3.
- 4 MEMBER SANGHVI: Did you hear that?
- 5 It's an enormous place. And this is a tiny little
- 6 request they are making to put a little accessory
- 7 building. And I have never seen anything like
- 8 this in 20 years in Novi. And it's a huge
- 9 property like that hidden away in a corner not
- 10 realizing that you can have such a large property
- 11 in the City of Novi. Congratulations, and I
- 12 wholeheartedly support your request. Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,
- 14 Dr. Sanghvi. Any other board? Okay. Go ahead.
- 15 MEMBER LONGO: As you know, I drove to
- 16 the property, and it's gated, as he mentioned,
- 17 with the other homeowners. But then actually
- 18 there's a gate to their property to the 29 acres,
- 19 and for some reason, it was open. So I drove in
- 20 and she asked me who this was. But I had to get
- 21 into their property to even see the location where
- 22 the greenhouse. You would be able to see the
- 23 greenhouse in their property, but as he mentioned,
- 24 the neighbor mentioned, you come up to it and you
- 25 can see the house and the bazillion trees that are



- 1 behind there. I didn't realize they planted more.
- 2 But having that many structures on 29 acres, as
- 3 Mav mentioned, really isn't an issue, and I'm
- 4 going to support it.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.
- 6 Any other board member, please?
- 7 MEMBER KRIEGER: I have a question.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Linda, please
- 9 go ahead.
- 10 MEMBER KRIEGER: The cement pad where
- 11 the open green area is where you're going to put
- 12 the greenhouse?
- MS. TO: Yes.
- 14 MEMBER KRIEGER: Okay. And then how is
- 15 that to the city, the front -- there's three other
- 16 buildings, so the front it seems more like the
- 17 side. Was it in the front? Okay. I'm
- 18 considering everything that's been explained and
- 19 the uniqueness of this location and I would be
- 20 able to support your request, and it looks like
- 21 it's going to be beautiful. Thank you.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,
- 23 Linda. Any other board member before we make a
- 24 motion? Okay. Clift Montague, please go ahead
- 25 and make a motion, please.



- 1 MEMBER MONTAGUE: I move that we grant
- 2 the variance in Case No. PZ24-0041 sought by
- 3 Katherine To, for a sixth detached accessory,
- 4 additional structure, and an accessory structure
- 5 in the front yard. Without the variance the
- 6 Petitioner will be limited in their use of the
- 7 property because the rear yard is protected by
- 8 wetlands. And they're doing a good job of not
- 9 disturbing those and asking to take those out,
- 10 which I greatly appreciate. The property is
- 11 unique because it is a really large property with
- 12 large separations between the adjacent properties.
- 13 They did not create the condition because they
- 14 bought the house, and the lot as is. The relief
- 15 granted will not unreasonably interfere with any
- 16 surrounding adjacent properties. As a matter of
- 17 fact, you won't be able to see this from there
- 18 because it is such a large lot, and the sidelines
- 19 are after you get onto their property. And it is
- 20 consistent with the spirit and intent of the
- 21 ordinance because it allows the residents to use
- 22 their property for this greenhouse and what looks
- 23 like a beautiful garden, which I think is going to
- 24 be a nice addition to the property.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay.



- 1 Second, Dr. Sanghvi.
- 2 MEMBER SANGHVI: Second.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: And call for
- 4 the roll call, please?
- 5 MS. FLETCHER: Member Thompson?
- 6 MEMBER THOMPSON: Yes.
- 7 MS. FLETCHER: Member Longo?
- 8 MEMBER LONGO: Yes.
- 9 MS. FLETCHER: Member McLeod?
- 10 MEMBER McLEOD: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Sanghvi?
- 12 MEMBER SANGHVI: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Chairperson Peddiboyina?
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Yes, please.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Montague.
- 16 MEMBER MONTAGUE: Yes.
- 17 MS. FLETCHER: Member Krieger?
- 18 MEMBER KRIEGER: Yes.
- 19 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. Motion
- 20 carries.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA:
- 22 Congratulations.
- MS. TO: Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Good luck.
- Okay. PZ24-0042 (Lawrence MacDonald)



- 1 45530 White Pines Drive, north of Nine Mile Road,
- 2 west of Taft Road, Parcel 50-22-28-426-002. The
- 3 applicant is requesting variances from the City of
- 4 Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.4 for a rear
- 5 yard setback of 31.88 ft. (35 ft. Required,
- 6 variance of 3.12 ft.); This variance would
- 7 accommodate a covered deck on the rear of the
- 8 home. This property is zoned One-Family
- 9 Residential (R-3). Please spell your first and
- 10 last name clearly for the record. If you're not
- 11 an attorney, then my secretary will take the oath.
- 12 Thank you.
- MR. MacDONALD: Lawrence,
- 14 L-A-W-R-E-N-C-E, MacDonald, MACDONALD.
- 15 MEMBER McLEOD: Lawrence, are you an
- 16 attorney?
- 17 MR. MacDONALD: I'm not.
- 18 MEMBER LONGO: Do you promise to tell
- 19 the truth in this case?
- MR. MacDONALD: I do.
- 21 MEMBER LONGO: Thank you.
- MS. CIUFO: Marianne Ciufo,
- M-A-R-I-A-N-N-E, C-I-U-F-O.
- MEMBER LONGO: Marianne, are you an
- 25 attorney?



- 1 MS. CIUFO: I am not.
- 2 MEMBER LONGO: Do you promise to tell
- 3 the truth in this case?
- 4 MS. CIUFO: I do.
- 5 MEMBER LONGO: Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay. Mr.
- 7 Lawrence and Marianne, please go ahead and where
- 8 we can help you tonight on this case. Marianne,
- 9 please go ahead.
- 10 MS. CIUFO: I am going to do the
- 11 speaking on this. I wrote it out because I'm not
- 12 a public speaker, so, believe me, you want me to
- 13 have this written out or else it won't benefit
- 14 either one of us. I'm Marianne Ciufo and this is
- 15 my husband, and we are the owners of the residence
- 16 at 45530 White Pines Drive in the Royal Crown
- 17 subdivision. We're here tonight to request a 3.12
- 18 foot variance to accommodate the new covered deck
- 19 in the back of our home. And this first page --
- 20 some of these pictures are redundant, so I'm going
- 21 to try and move quickly through this. I'm sure
- 22 you're going to want to go home. This just
- 23 shows -- this is actually the most important
- 24 slide. It shows the proposed cover deck. The
- 25 yellow part is the original deck that we had that



- 1 needed to be replaced. And you can see the lower
- 2 part is the new deck kind of superimposed on the
- 3 original deck. And you can see it is smaller.
- 4 But the most important thing to see is that little
- 5 tiny rectangle that I drew in quite poorly there.
- 6 That's the variance that we're requesting to make
- 7 it a little bit longer. So that's the first
- 8 slide.
- 9 And I think you already have plans in
- 10 your packet on what the deck will look like, but
- 11 just for reference, this is -- that's the deck
- 12 we're going to have. This is the covered portion
- 13 that we need that three foot variance on. And as
- 14 you can see, it's very traditional. It's kind of
- 15 classic. It's nothing over the top on that. We
- 16 just want something a little bit bigger for my
- 17 mother, so it would work better for her there.
- 18 And I'm just going to address a couple
- 19 of the variance standards as they pertain to us on
- 20 the application that we filled out. Standard
- 21 three is, and my mom doesn't mind me showing a
- 22 picture of her, it's mainly for my mom. While the
- 23 covered deck will benefit all of us to be
- 24 protected from the elements, the covered deck is
- 25 needed mostly for my mom who comes over fairly



- 1 frequently and enjoys the chance of being
- 2 outdoors. However, she is blind, primarily
- 3 wheelchair bound and suffers from skin cancer.
- 4 And to be able to access the cover directly from
- 5 our great room allows her the ability to go
- 6 outdoors more easily, while at the same time,
- 7 being protected from the elements.
- 8 And the extra three feet that we're
- 9 requesting for the covered deck will provide
- 10 enough room to allow maneuverability of her
- 11 wheelchair while still providing enough space for
- 12 other guests and furniture. Three feet may seem
- 13 minimal, but when you're trying to maneuver a
- 14 wheelchair, it makes a big difference. It's
- 15 tremendously helpful. So without the variance, we
- 16 would be unable to develop the covered deck to
- 17 best meet our needs, but more importantly, the
- 18 special needs of my mom.
- 19 And then I'm going to move on to
- 20 standard five, the adverse impact on the
- 21 surrounding area. And I think you already got
- 22 this letter here. This is from our board member
- 23 that in his letter of approval, Adam Czap, he
- 24 says, I reviewed the plans and they meet our
- 25 setback and sideline requirements. Construction



- 1 materials and methodology look typical for the
- 2 neighborhood. So both the homeowners association
- 3 and the surrounding neighbors have supported our
- 4 proposed deck and express no concern that this
- 5 three foot variance would adversely impact the
- 6 surrounding area.
- 7 And then I have photos, but I think I
- 8 went overboard with the photos, so I'm going to
- 9 try to cut this down because I think you have
- 10 photos as well in the packet. But I have an
- 11 overhead view of our home. And the rectangle is
- 12 just an approximate on our backyard here. And as
- 13 you can see, its very wooded. There's lots of
- 14 foliage. So we're kind of secluded from other
- 15 neighbors, so they won't really be able to see the
- 16 deck as much. There's no way that they would be
- 17 able to see the deck without actually coming over.
- 18 And this one if, if you pan out, you
- 19 can better see where the little red dot there, we
- 20 have lots of woods around us, and so we, again,
- 21 are quite secluded. These are just showing that
- 22 it provides a lot of privacy the way our backyard
- 23 is. These are the sides of our house. And if you
- 24 can see, this is the east side, and I don't know
- 25 if you can tell, there's huge arborvitaes right



- 1 here. As a matter of fact, I looked today,
- they're taller than the actual house. They're
- 3 right by the deck there, so you can't see from the
- 4 east side, and also from the west side can't see
- 5 too well here, but there's a lot of foliage, wood
- 6 and arborvitaes there. And I think you have this,
- 7 just the covered deck renderings. I kind of
- 8 superimposed arborvitaes here to show how they
- 9 kind of seclude the area there.
- 10 And really, all I have left are to
- 11 show -- I try to do, perhaps poorly, a panoramic
- 12 view of our backyard just to show how secluded it
- is. So if we go from west to east, here's the
- 14 arborvitaes on the west side. This is our deck
- 15 here. And if you can see how tall those
- 16 arborvitaes are. And then we'll just continue
- 17 west. Here we continue going around west, very
- 18 very wooded, very secluded. And we continue on
- 19 here. And actually, our property probably ends
- 20 right there. And these last two photos are just
- 21 to show that with our property ending here and
- 22 we're looking to the east, you really can't see
- 23 many homes at all. If you walk around, the
- 24 neighbors can see you, but we have a very secluded
- 25 backyard. And then, that's just one more when we



- 1 had our original deck here. That's no longer
- 2 there. Here's the arborvitaes. And again, these
- 3 are the neighbor's backyard too, and you can't see
- 4 too much here.
- 5 So anyway, you have our letters of
- 6 support, I believe, from our neighbors, and I'm
- 7 just going to close with the original opening
- 8 slide to show this is all that we're requesting
- 9 right there is that little approximate three foot
- 10 variance there. And we respectfully hope that you
- 11 approve it.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay. Mr.
- 13 Lawrence, you want to speak anything?
- MEMBER McLEOD: No.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,
- 16 Marianne.
- MS. CIUFO: He's my moral support
- 18 husband.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you so
- 20 much for the wonderful presentation. I really
- 21 appreciate. From the city?
- 22 MR. HALL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 23 Yes. They are seeking a rear yard setback for
- 24 3.12 feet. It's because the deck is covered,
- 25 that's why it's engaged in this. The open deck



- 1 that's there meets all the stipulations of the
- 2 ordinance, so we have no further comments. Thank
- 3 you.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay.
- 5 Correspondence secretary?
- 6 MEMBER LONGO: Yes. We mailed out 26
- 7 letters. None were returned. We had no
- 8 objections and six approvals.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.
- 10 Public hearing. Anybody would like to speak on
- 11 this case, this is the time to speak. Okay.
- 12 Looks like none. Okay, Marianne, you said you're
- 13 not a public speaker, but you prepared very well
- 14 and you came for the good slides and presentation.
- 15 MS. CIUFO: I try. I try.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.
- 17 You said the association approved and the
- 18 neighborhood approved, and I don't have any
- 19 objection, and it's open to the board. Okay. Dr.
- 20 Sanghvi.
- 21 MEMBER SANGHVI: Thank you. First of
- 22 all I want to thank you for a beautiful
- 23 presentation in your application.
- MS. CIUFO: Thank you.
- 25 MEMBER SANGHVI: You have done a



- 1 wonderful job for requiring what it is. And
- 2 number two, I came and saw you last Sunday
- 3 afternoon while you were working in the front
- 4 yard.
- 5 MS. CIUFO: I know.
- 6 MEMBER SANGHVI: Oh, you noticed it.
- 7 MS. CIUFO: Yes. I thought you were
- 8 Grubhub. I did. My son orders it all the time.
- 9 I thought, oh, it's a Grubhub car.
- 10 MEMBER SANGHVI: Anyway. And I looked
- 11 around. There was so much vegetation around you
- 12 that I'm surprised you haven't covered the deck so
- 13 far. And I gathered afterward, Mr. -- he's not a
- 14 mister, he's a doctor of medicine.
- MS. CIUFO: Yes, he is.
- 16 MEMBER SANGHVI: With the Nile virus
- 17 and everything around, I think you want that place
- 18 probably covered so you don't get any mosquitoes
- 19 coming along and doing any damage to anybody. And
- 20 you only need a very minor variance. You need
- 21 three foot or something. I have no difficulty in
- 22 supporting your application wholeheartedly. Thank
- 23 you, and thank you for doing very well.
- MS. CIUFO: Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,



- 1 Dr. Sanghvi. Any other board member, please?
- 2 Okay. Looks like none. And Michael Thompson, can
- 3 you make a motion, please.
- 4 MEMBER THOMPSON: Sure. I move that we
- 5 grant the variance in Case PZ24-0042 sought by Dr.
- 6 Lawrence MacDonald for the rear yard setback
- 7 because the Petitioner has shown practical
- 8 difficulty requiring approval to build a bigger
- 9 rear deck. Without the variance the Petitioner
- 10 will be unreasonably prevented or limited with
- 11 respect to use of the property because of the
- 12 shape of the property. The property is unique
- 13 because it backs up to the woods. The Petitioner
- 14 did not create the condition because they were not
- 15 the original home builder. The relief granted
- 16 would not unreasonably interfere with adjacent or
- 17 surrounding properties because it's such a minimal
- 18 request, and The relief is consistent with the
- 19 spirit and the intent of the ordinance with the
- 20 new deck being smaller and also all the approval
- 21 of your neighbors and your HOA. You made that one
- 22 easy for us.
- 23 MEMBER SANGHVI: Second.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,
- 25 Dr. Sanghvi. Roll call, please.



- 1 MS. FLETCHER: Member Montague?
- 2 MEMBER MONTAGUE: Yes.
- 3 MS. FLETCHER: Member Krieger?
- 4 MEMBER KRIEGER: Yes.
- 5 MS. FLETCHER: Member Thompson?
- 6 MEMBER THOMPSON: Yes.
- 7 MS. FLETCHER: Chairperson Peddiboyina?
- 8 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Yes, ma'am.
- 9 MS. FLETCHER: Member Sanghvi?
- 10 MEMBER SANGHVI: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member McLeod?
- 12 MEMBER McLEOD: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Longo?
- MEMBER LONGO: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. Motion
- 16 carries.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA:
- 18 Congratulations, both of you.
- 19 MS. CIUFO: Thank you.
- 20 MR. MacDONALD: Thank you for your
- 21 time.
- 22 MS. CIUFO: Now I can rest quietly
- 23 tonight.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.
- 25 Good luck. The case number PZ24-0043 (Ryan



- 1 Francis) 45827 Galway Drive, south of Nine Mile
- 2 Road, west of Taft Road, Parcel 50-22-33-280-002
- 3 The applicant is requesting variances from the
- 4 City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.2 for a
- 5 side yard setback of 12.5 ft. (15 ft. Required,
- 6 variance of 2.5 ft.); This variance would
- 7 accommodate a garage addition. This property is
- 8 zoned One-Family Residential (R-1). Is applicant
- 9 present, please? Come to the podium whoever would
- 10 like to tell your first and last name clearly. If
- 11 you're not an attorney, my secretary will take the
- 12 oath. Thank you.
- MR. FRANCIS: Ryan, R-Y-A-N, Francis,
- 14 F-R-A-N-C-I-S.
- 15 MEMBER LONGO: Ryan, are you an
- 16 attorney?
- MR. FRANCIS: No, I am not.
- 18 MEMBER LONGO: Do you promise to tell
- 19 the truth in this case?
- MR. FRANCIS: Yes, I do.
- 21 MEMBER LONGO: Thank you.
- MR. FRANCIS: Thank you.
- MS. FRANCIS: Lauren, L-A-U-R-E-N,
- 24 Francis, F-R-A-N-C-I-S.
- 25 MEMBER LONGO: Lauren, are you an



- 1 attorney.
- MS. FRANCIS: No.
- 3 MEMBER LONGO: Do you promise to tell
- 4 the truth in this case?
- 5 MS. FRANCIS: Yes.
- 6 MEMBER LONGO: Thank you.
- 7 MR. MYERS: Frank Myers, F-R-A-N-K,
- $8 \quad M-Y-E-R-S$.
- 9 MEMBER LONGO: Are you an attorney?
- MR. MYERS: No.
- 11 MEMBER LONGO: Do you promise to tell
- 12 the truth in this case?
- MR. MYERS: I do.
- 14 MEMBER LONGO: Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay. Please
- 16 go ahead whoever wants to go first whatever we can
- 17 help you on this case.
- 18 MR. FRANCIS: Great. Thank you so much
- 19 for having us tonight. We brought Frank, our
- 20 builder, with us today to explain some of the ins
- 21 and outs of things. We moved into the house at
- 22 45827 Galway Drive in 2012 when our second child
- 23 was on the way. We now are at four boys in the
- 24 family. So two are with us tonight, the other two
- 25 are finishing up soccer practice. And so our



- 1 house has been growing since we moved in and we
- 2 need some additional space for our children.
- 3 So our current footprint of our house,
- 4 our family room, we're fighting for space on
- 5 couches and on floors at this point. So part of
- 6 our plan is to take over the current existing
- 7 garage space to expand our family room and then
- 8 add in some of the necessities of a mudroom and
- 9 first floor laundry and first floor bathroom.
- 10 Currently, our garage serves as a makeshift
- 11 mudroom for all the stuff for the kids in sports,
- 12 and so our addition is taking over that space and
- 13 adding an addition of a new garage off to the
- 14 right side of our house.
- 15 Currently, we have a one-car garage
- 16 that we think was built in about 2000, so 12 years
- 17 before we moved in. And we are trying to just
- 18 match the line of our addition of our two-car
- 19 garage with the existing one-car garage that is
- 20 already there. Our neighbors to that side are
- 21 perfectly fine with this request. It is a request
- 22 of 2.5 feet closer to our neighbor line than we
- 23 currently have to put that. And the two-car
- 24 garage we are not asking for a huge two-car
- 25 garage. We are asking for 21 and a half foot



- 1 two-car garage. But again, it's lining up with
- 2 the one-car garage to begin with. So we're going
- 3 to the bear minimum of what we can add for a
- 4 two-car garage. Frank, I don't know if you want
- 5 to add any.
- 6 MR. MYERS: This area right back here,
- 7 this structure right in here is the existing
- 8 one-car garage. It was constructed. It's been
- 9 there already. It already has, I assume, a
- 10 variance already 12 and a half feet off the side
- 11 of the property line. So our proposal is just to
- 12 continue that line straight up toward Galway and
- 13 back east to tie into the existing garage that is
- 14 currently there, and turn the existing garage
- 15 right here into living space, as Ryan mentioned,
- 16 for additional bathroom, mudroom and expand the
- 17 living room to a larger size.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,
- 19 Frank. Ma'am, you want to speak anything?
- 20 MS. FRANCIS: We just wanted to share
- 21 that we do have HOA approval. Before we even
- 22 started this project, we talked with all of our
- 23 neighbors near us, specifically the ones right
- 24 next door to make sure that they were okay with
- 25 this. We weren't even going to go down the path



- 1 of an addition if they were not okay with it. So
- 2 we have the support of all of our neighbors and we
- 3 have our HOA support shown there.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay. Thank
- 5 you, Lauren. From the city?
- 6 MR. HALL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 7 Could you put that last picture up that shows the
- 8 site plan?
- 9 MR. MYERS: Sure.
- 10 MR. HALL: Yes. They are asking for
- 11 two and a half foot side yard setback. It is
- 12 going to line up with the accessory structure they
- 13 have now to make a more cohesive structure. So
- 14 there is an overhead door that faces the back
- 15 yard, is that correct, over the garage door in the
- 16 back addition off the accessory garage?
- 17 MR. MYER: It faces the front.
- 18 MR. FRANCIS: Currently it faces the
- 19 front.
- 20 MR. HALL: Are you going to have any
- 21 lighting on that? What kind of lighting do you
- 22 have around this, exterior lighting?
- MR. FRANCIS: Lighting that would go
- towards the neighboring house, we wouldn't have in
- 25 light on that side of the structure.



- 1 MR. HALL: And you have lighting on the
- 2 front. That would be for the garage door, some
- 3 sort of decorative lighting, is that correct?
- 4 MR. FRANCIS: Yes.
- 5 MR. HALL: I think that's all the
- 6 questions I had.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,
- 8 Alan. I appreciate that. Correspondence
- 9 sedentary?
- 10 MEMBER LONGO: Yes. I sent out 24
- 11 letters. We had no returns. There were no
- 12 objections and four approvals.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.
- 14 Anybody in the audience would like to speak on
- 15 this case? Okay. Looks like none. Yeah. Your
- 16 concern is valid. You have four kids. It's not a
- 17 small family. And we have nowadays two kids also
- 18 have a lot of space and the garage is filling and
- 19 you're dumping a lot in the garage. It's a nice
- 20 presentation and I have no objection, and it's
- 21 open to the board. Okay. Go ahead, sir.
- 22 MEMBER MONTAGUE: So looking at this,
- 23 the addition, I saw the one behind, but the
- 24 perspective, it kind of lines up with the edge of
- 25 your existing driveway that's there. So that's



- 1 kind of the line of where the garage will be?
- 2 MR. FRANCIS: Correct.
- 3 MEMBER LONGO: The three big trees that
- 4 are adjacent, are those on your property?
- 5 MR. FRANCIS: No. They're on our
- 6 neighbor's property line.
- 7 MR. MONTAGUE: Okay. It looked like
- 8 that with the driveway that you'd be out of the
- 9 drip line so you wouldn't affect those trees. So
- 10 that was a concern, but I think it's far enough
- 11 away that you'll be fine. So thank you for the
- 12 presentation.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.
- 14 Okay, Dr. Sanghvi.
- 15 MEMBER SANGHVI: Thank you. I came and
- 16 saw your property. I don't know whether you
- 17 noticed me driving to your thing.
- 18 MR. FRANCIS: We did not. We didn't
- 19 pick it up on any of the cameras either.
- 20 MEMBER SANGHVI: You are so back
- inside, your house and everything, you can't make
- 22 out from the street how far you are. You probably
- 23 got about 150 yards from the front?
- 24 MR. FRANCIS: Yes. We're very lucky to
- 25 have the space we have.



- 1 MEMBER SANGHVI: Behind you there is
- 2 nothing very much to worry about. And the other
- 3 thing I thought, you had a little shed like thing
- 4 over there before?
- 5 MS. FRANCIS: That's our one-car
- 6 garage.
- 7 MEMBER SANGHVI: So you're going to
- 8 knock it out?
- 9 MR. FRANCIS: It's going to be attached
- 10 on the back half.
- 11 MEMBER SANGHVI: You're going to remove
- 12 that?
- 13 MR. FRANCIS: It will stay. Half of it
- 14 will be absorbed as workshop area.
- 15 MEMBER SANGHVI: Opening of your garage
- 16 was facing on the side rather than in the front.
- 17 MR. FRANCIS: It is currently, yes.
- 18 The current garage opens on the side.
- 19 MEMBER SANGHVI: So when you add this,
- 20 I think it will look much more elegant than what
- 21 it is now.
- MR. FRANCIS: Correct.
- 23 MEMBER SANGHVI: I can wholeheartedly
- 24 support you application. Nothing but making it
- 25 better and nicer neighborhood. Congratulations.



- 1 Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,
- 3 Dr. Sanghvi. Any other board member, please?
- 4 Linda?
- 5 MEMBER KRIEGER: I wanted to confirm,
- 6 when you open the garage door it will be facing
- 7 Galway?
- 8 MR. FRANCIS: Correct. The street.
- 9 MEMBER KRIEGER: Okay. Thank you.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.
- 11 You mentioned that you got the approval from the
- 12 homeowners association and your neighbors and
- 13 everything.
- MR. FRANCIS: Correct.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Any other
- 16 board member would like to speak before going to
- 17 the motion? Looks like none. Linda?
- 18 MEMBER KRIEGER: I move that we grant
- 19 the variance in Case No. PZ24-0043 sought by the
- 20 Francis Family for the side yard setback for 12.5
- 21 feet to the side because the Petitioner has shown
- 22 practical difficulty requiring the 2.5-foot
- 23 variance. Without the variance the Petitioner
- 24 will be unreasonably prevented or limited with
- 25 respect to the use of the property because of



- 1 their growing family. The property is unique
- 2 because the location and already existing one car
- 3 garage that's on the property to assist with the
- 4 creation of the addition. The Petitioner did not
- 5 create the condition; it is not a lot split and
- 6 its already existing. The relief granted will not
- 7 unreasonably interfere with adjacent or
- 8 surrounding properties. It is consistent with the
- 9 neighborhood. There are other homes that have
- 10 garage doors facing Galway as well. The relief is
- 11 consistent with the spirit and intent of the
- 12 ordinance because it is a reasonable request.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,
- 14 Linda.
- 15 MEMBER SANGHVI: Second.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,
- 17 Dr. Sanghvi. Roll call, please.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Sanghvi?
- 19 MEMBER SANGHVI: Yes.
- 20 MS. FLETCHER: Chairperson Peddiboyina?
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Yes, ma'am.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Montague?
- 23 MEMBER MONTAGUE: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Longo?
- 25 MEMBER LONGO: Yes.



- 1 MS. FLETCHER: Member McLeod?
- 2 MEMBER McLEOD: Yes.
- 3 MS. FLETCHER: Member Krieger?
- 4 MEMBER KRIEGER: Yes.
- 5 MS. FLETCHER: Member Thompson?
- 6 MEMBER THOMPSON: Yes.
- 7 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. Motion
- 8 carries.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Mr. Francis
- 10 family, congratulations.
- MR. FRANCIS: Thank you so much. We
- 12 appreciate it.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay
- 14 Tonight, last case. Okay. Let this family go.
- 15 PZ24-0044 (Houston Hot Chicken) 43339 Crescent
- 16 Boulevard, north of Grand River Avenue, east of
- 17 Novi Road, Parcel 50-22-14-351-063. The applicant
- 18 is requesting a variance from the City of Novi
- 19 Sign Ordinance Section 28-5(a) to allow an
- 20 additional wall sign (1 wall sign allowed,
- 21 variance of 1 additional wall sign). This
- 22 property is zoned Town Center (TC). Okay. Please
- 23 go ahead and tell your first and last name clearly
- 24 where we can help you tonight on this case,
- 25 please.



- 1 MR. PANOS: Sure. My name is Bill
- 2 Panos, P-A-N-O-S.
- 3 MEMBER LONGO: Are you an attorney?
- 4 MR. PANOS: I am an attorney.
- 5 MEMBER LONGO: Thank you.
- 6 MR. YONO: Branden Yono, B-R-A-N-D-E-N,
- 7 last name Y-O-N-O.
- 8 MEMBER LONGO: Branden, are you an
- 9 attorney?
- 10 MR. YONO: No, sir.
- 11 MEMBER LONGO: Do you promise to tell
- 12 the truth in this case?
- MR. YONO: Yes.
- 14 MEMBER LONGO: Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay. Bill
- or Branden, who wants to speak first?
- 17 MR. PANOS: I'm happy to speak first.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Go ahead,
- 19 sir.
- 20 MR. PANOS: Good evening. So we are a
- 21 new franchise out of Las Vegas and we have decided
- 22 to make Novi, Michigan our second site that we
- 23 would look to bring our franchise to. I lived in
- Novi for ten years so we're really excited to
- 25 actually bring it to this community as the second



- 1 store.
- In doing so, we identified that the
- 3 Novi Town Center was going to be the perfect home
- 4 for us and we were going to share what is the old
- 5 Primanti Brothers with Shake Shack. In doing so,
- 6 we know that there are three tenants at the
- 7 property. We are going to take the middle spot
- 8 where Chipotle will be at the one end, and Shake
- 9 Shack is building out to be at the other end.
- 10 When we got into going for the sign, we
- 11 noticed that we were only going to be allowed a
- 12 sign on the, what I call the front of the
- 13 building, or which, to me, is essentially the back
- of the building. What's unique here is is this
- 15 property is facing Novi Road, the main entrance
- 16 coming off Crescent Drive, which almost creates
- 17 the back of the building, the front of the
- 18 building, which is why it's so imperative that we
- 19 feel we need that signage. If we don't have the
- 20 signage, the hardship is really going to be -- an
- 21 economic hardship is really going to be intact for
- 22 us just because I don't believe anybody will even
- 23 know that we're there. Shake Shack will be
- 24 visible, Chipotle will be visible, and we're going
- 25 to be that smaller tenant in the middle that just



- 1 is going to be unseen.
- I would also like to point out, I think
- 3 it's just kind of conforming to what is already
- 4 there with two tenants having those rights. And
- 5 then as I look in through the west of Town Center
- 6 or even across the street, Novi Road, I also
- 7 notice that there are a bunch of businesses,
- 8 Qdoba, Five Guys, Verizon, that also have that
- 9 right. Personally we don't believe that it's
- 10 going to be an adverse effect to the area. We
- 11 think it's just going to add to what is already
- 12 there.
- I will point out, we received some
- 14 letters of support. Number one, from our
- 15 landlord, we received approval. I'm happy to show
- 16 you these that they offered their support for us,
- 17 and they also in their experience of everything
- 18 that they've done in retail that, you know, it
- 19 would be pretty devastating for a tenant of a
- 20 restaurant to come in and not have that
- 21 visibility. We also received support from Shake
- 22 Shack. They also said that they were in full
- 23 support of us getting this. And again, I have
- 24 letters to show. We had the Realty who brought
- 25 the old Prudential -- or I'm sorry, the old



- 1 Fidelity building. They also gave their approval
- 2 for us.
- 3 So if you have questions, we're here to
- 4 answer questions, but I hope I outlined, you know,
- 5 kind of the importance for this sign. And we have
- 6 questions if Branden wants to add anything.
- 7 MR. YONO: No. He said it all.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: And before
- 9 going, do you have any slides or anything to show
- 10 the sign?
- 11 MR. PANOS: Yeah, certainly. And we
- 12 also have our sign contractor here also with us in
- 13 case anybody had any questions. The landlord
- 14 couldn't be here. She came down with COVID,
- 15 unfortunately, and we were going to have her here
- 16 today but she could not make it, but I do have
- 17 that letter of support. Unfortunately, my slides
- 18 are a little bit dark because we did the
- 19 originals. I think we gave them to you. Yeah.
- 20 You're not really going to see much. This is the
- 21 back of the building, or what I call the front of
- 22 the building. Coming up Crescent Drive you can
- 23 see the Chipotle sign. You can see Shake Shack is
- 24 going to be on what would be the left side of this
- 25 picture. And then we're kind of tucked in the



- 1 middle. However, I'll also point out, when I say
- 2 in the middle, we're kind of really only from here
- 3 to there. Maybe a little bit over. But Shake
- 4 Shack has this back patio, and we have a door that
- 5 is right there. And I apologize for some of this
- 6 darkness. But this picture might show a little
- 7 better. And we put up a mock sign. I hope
- 8 everybody had the opportunity to go and look at
- 9 it. But this is really the mock sign and that's
- 10 our sign that we're going to put up. Our logo out
- of -- this would be the area where the sign would
- 12 be. And one of the other things is from the
- 13 Primanti Brothers there was some outdoor dining
- 14 area with garage doors. So technically, our space
- is here and the Shake Shack space kind of
- 16 infringes on the back of our spot. So without a
- 17 sign there, anybody just driving through going to
- 18 Olive Garden or Famous Dave's wouldn't even know
- 19 we were there. They would just assume that the
- 20 tenancy stayed the same because Shake Shack
- 21 infringes so much on the back of our space.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Okay. Thank
- 23 you. From the city, Alan?
- 24 MR. HALL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 25 Could you scroll down to the sign detail, maybe



- 1 the other way? So yes. They are going for a
- 2 variance for additional sign. The sign that they
- 3 have chosen on both sides are within the sign
- 4 regulation for the size. There's no issue with
- 5 the size, just the additional sign they're asking
- 6 for tonight. When you light the sign, the sign is
- 7 backlit, or is there light shining to the sign?
- 8 How is the sign lit?
- 9 MR. PANOS: It's internally lit.
- 10 MR. HALL: Internally lit?
- MR. PANOS: Yes.
- 12 MR. HALL: So there's no animation of
- 13 any lighting.
- MR. PANOS: No.
- MR. HALL: All right. With that, I
- 16 don't have any other questions. Thank you.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you. I
- 18 appreciate it. From the correspondence secretary.
- 19 MEMBER LONGO: So there were 71 letters
- 20 mailed out. Nine were returned there were no
- 21 objections and no approvals.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.
- Okay. Bill, congratulations and welcome to the
- 24 Novi City and Houston Chicken Texas, or whatever
- 25 it is. This is Novi, Michigan, okay? And we



- 1 encourage the businesses, and you want the
- 2 business. As you say, it's on the Novi Road you
- 3 need a sign, otherwise, it's going to be a
- 4 hardship. I agree with you. Let me open to my
- 5 board and let me come back. It's open to the
- 6 board please. Dr. Sanghvi?
- 7 MEMBER SANGHVI: Than you. I came on
- 8 Sunday and looked at your thing. You got a very
- 9 nice sign there already. Is that the real sign or
- 10 a mockup?
- MR. PANOS: That was a mockup.
- 12 MEMBER SANGHVI: It's the real sign.
- 13 Okay. I couldn't quite understand where you were
- 14 going to put your new second sign because there
- 15 was no way to know what particular site you were
- 16 going to put there. So will you show me on your
- 17 diagram exactly what kind of sign you are putting
- 18 there? It's not an identical with this, is it?
- 19 MR. PANOS: Yes.
- 20 MEMBER SANGHVI: It is identical with
- 21 that, and it's the same size as this one?
- 22 MR. PANOS: Yeah. It's an identical
- 23 sign.
- 24 MEMBER SANGHVI: Same size. Okay.
- 25 Thank you. You answered my questions. Thank you



- 1 very much.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,
- 3 Dr. Sanghvi. Linda.
- 4 MEMBER KRIEGER: Appreciate you putting
- 5 up the mockup sign. That helped a ton. And so
- 6 the pre-lit sign instead of what the mockup is,
- 7 and then the sign on Crescent, since that's the
- 8 back, I can totally support because it encourages
- 9 visitors coming to Novi to know where and what is
- 10 there. And then if they're on the inside like
- 11 coming out of from shopping and they see you on
- 12 that side, so it is two front, so I'm in total
- 13 support.
- MR. PANOS: Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,
- 16 Member Linda. Any other board members, please?
- 17 Okay. Looks like none. Michael Longo, make a
- 18 motion, please.
- 19 MEMBER LONGO: I move that we grant the
- 20 variance in Case No. PZ24-0044, sought by Houston
- 21 Hot Chicken, for a sign variance because
- 22 Petitioner has shown practical difficulty
- 23 including exposing the business on both sides of
- 24 the building. That the request is based upon
- 25 circumstances or features that are exceptional and



- 1 unique to the property and do not result from
- 2 conditions that exist generally in the city or
- 3 that are self-created, including two sides of the
- 4 building are visible by the public. That the
- 5 failure to grant the relief will unreasonably
- 6 prevent or limit the use of the property and will
- 7 result in substantially more than mere
- 8 inconveniences or inability to attain a higher
- 9 economic or financial return because the business
- 10 would not be easily seen on the back side or front
- 11 side. That the grant of the relief would be
- 12 offset by other improvements or actions, such as
- increased setbacks or increased landscaping, such
- 14 that the net effect will result in an improvement
- 15 to the property or the project so that the
- 16 business is visible on both sides. That
- 17 construction of a conforming sign would create the
- 18 removal or significant alteration of natural
- 19 features on the property because it will not
- 20 modify the property. The grant of the relief will
- 21 not result in a use or structure that is
- 22 incompatible with or unreasonably interferes with
- 23 the adjacent or surrounding properties, will
- 24 result in substantial justice being done on both
- 25 the applicant and adjacent or surrounding



- 1 properties, and is not inconsistent with the
- 2 spirit or intent of the chapter because they are
- 3 in a group of buildings that which also have signs
- 4 on both sides.
- 5 MEMBER KRIEGER: Second.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you,
- 7 Linda. Thank you so much both of your. Roll
- 8 call, please.
- 9 MS. FLETCHER: Chairperson Peddiboyina?
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Yes, ma'am.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Thompson?
- 12 MEMBER THOMPSON: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Longo?
- 14 MEMBER LONGO: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member McLeod?
- 16 MEMBER McLEOD: Yes.
- 17 MS. FLETCHER: Member Sanghvi?
- 18 MEMBER SANGHVI: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Montague?
- 20 MEMBER MONTAGUE: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Member Krieger?
- 22 MEMBER KRIEGER: Yes.
- MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. Motion
- 24 carries.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you.



1	MEMBER LONGO: When you guys open?
2	MR. PANOS: October. We're hoping for
3	October 1st.
4	MEMBER LONGO: I'll be over.
5	MR. PANOS: Please.
6	CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Thank you so
7	much. Before I adjourn this meeting today, any
8	other matters to move? Looks like none. Okay.
9	Say all in favor before I adjourn.
10	MEMBER KRIEGER: I move to adjourn.
11	MEMBER LONGO: Second.
12	CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Say aye in
13	favor.
14	THE BOARD: Aye.
15	CHAIRPERSON PEDDIBOYINA: Any nays?
16	Meeting adjourned.
17	(The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.)
18	
19	
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23	



24

25

1	CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY
2	TATE OF MICHIGAN)
3) SS
4	COUNTY OF OAKLAND)
5	
6	I, Melinda R. Womack, Certified
7	Shorthand Reporter, a Notary Public in and for the
8	above county and state, do hereby certify that the
9	above deposition was taken before me at the time
10	and place hereinbefore set forth; that the witness
11	was by me first duly sworn to testify to the
12	truth, and nothing but the truth, that the
13	foregoing questions asked and answers made by the
14	witness were duly recorded by me stenographically
15	and reduced to computer transcription; that this
16	is a true, full and correct transcript of my
17	stenographic notes so taken; and that I am not
18	related to, nor of counsel to either party nor
19	interested in the event of this cause.
20	Welence R. Domoch
21	File auck R. Domock
22	Melinda R. Womack, CSR-3611
23	Notary Public,
24	Oakland County, Michigan
25	My Commission expires: 06-22-2025



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