

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE  
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
July 18, 2012**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Debra Braselton called the meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals to order on Wednesday, July 18, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall of the Memorial Building, 19 E. Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale, Illinois.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Chairman Debra Braselton, Vice-Chairman Bob Neiman, Members Marc Connelly, Gary Moberly, Keith Giltner, John Callahan and Rody Biggert

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Director of Community Development/Building Commissioner Robb McGinnis, Village Clerk Christine Bruton and Court Reporter Tara Zeno

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 16, 2012**

Member Neiman and Member Connelly made non-substantive corrections to the minutes. Member Neiman moved **approval of the minutes of the Meeting of May 16, 2012, as amended.** Member Moberly seconded the motion.

**AYES:** Members Connelly, Moberly, Neiman, Giltner, Callahan, Biggert

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**ABSENT:** None

Motion carried.

**4. APPROVAL OF FINAL DECISION - None**

**5. RECEIPT OF APPEARANCES - None**

**6. RECEIPT OF REQUESTS, MOTIONS, PLEADINGS, OR REQUESTS TO MAKE PUBLIC COMMENT OF A GENERAL NATURE - None**

**7. PRE-HEARING AND AGENDA SETTING**

**a) V-05-12, 20 E. Glendale**

Mr. Ravi Yalamanchi, applicant and owner of the property, addressed the Board stating he works at Hinsdale hospital, currently lives downtown, but wants to cut down his commute by moving to Hinsdale. The property on Glendale was a bank-owned property. He has concerns with the setback, which brings him to the ZBA. This lot was divided many years ago and because of the block average, he is asking for 31.9' of relief, without which would result in a 20' wide house. He noted that the ZBA heard a similar case for 433 S. Washington. He has spoken to the neighbors and has their support. They considered renovation, but the cost is prohibitive. Member Biggert asked if the sale of the house was contingent on this variation. Mr. Yalamanchi said no, the bank was not favorably disposed to that option. The hearing was set for August 15, 2012.

1 **8. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

2 a) **V-04-12, 646 W. Maple** (Transcript on file)

3 (Individuals wishing to speak were sworn in by the court reporter.)

4 Mr. Nick Gilbert, property owner, addressed the Board asking for a reduction to the  
5 interior side yard of three feet, from the required 10' to 7' in order to build a wider  
6 structure. It is his understanding that this property is an R2 lot in and R4 zone and  
7 if the zoning was correct, it would give him another 9' buildable area. He is currently  
8 a Hinsdale resident and noted that he has made many changes to his existing home,  
9 but has always been respectful of his neighbors. Further, he intends to live in this  
10 home for many years. With respect to hardship, it is the narrowness of the building.  
11 He has spoken with his neighbors, some of which are here tonight to address the  
12 Board. He stated he is also sensitive to water run-off issues.

13 Upon the question of Chairman Braselton, Mr. Gilbert stated that with the variation  
14 the house would be 3' wider than permitted, but that in his opinion this would make a  
15 significant difference to the livability of the home. He also pointed out that the  
16 former house was setback at 3' feet, but the proposed structure would be further from  
17 the neighbor. Additionally, he would re-grade and use natural topography to manage  
18 water run-off.

19 Member Callahan asked if the wooded area at the south end of the property would be  
20 retained. Mr. Gilbert stated those were scrub trees and it would be his intention to  
21 remove them. Member Callahan said this neighbor would lose some privacy with the  
22 removal of the trees and also noted that this neighbor is his family. He also stated he  
23 would recuse himself if anyone was concerned, but felt that it wouldn't be an issue for  
24 him to remain objective. Mr. Gilbert said the location of the garage has not been cast  
25 in stone. Chairman Braselton asked if other alternatives were considered, to which  
26 Mr. Gilbert replied that he considered asking for a variance on the west, but felt that  
27 was a less viable option as it affected more people and that a variation on the outside  
28 corner sight line would be a more difficult approval. He looked at it every which way  
29 and spoke to neighbors who were in favor of the minimal change on the inside corner.  
30 Member Giltner asked him to speak to hardship. Mr. Gilbert stated that he wants to  
31 make thicker, heavily insulated walls and circulation requirements would then make  
32 the internal space too narrow.

33  
34 Mr. Louis Holub, 642 W. Maple, addressed the Board as the homeowner to the east of  
35 the subject property. He stated he does not object to the request for variance on the  
36 side yard, in fact, he is actually gaining 4' from where the old house was located. His  
37 concerns are that the larger footprint of the house will affect drainage and that  
38 construction will cause damage to his property. Mr. Gilbert stated that he will live in  
39 this house and cares about his relationships with his neighbors and therefore would  
40 do all he can to alleviate drainage and construction issues.

41  
42 Ms. Loretta Tomfohrde, 638 W. Maple, addressed the Board regarding the water  
43 issues in her back yard. Mr. McGinnis stated that during construction, building and  
44 engineering does all they can to ensure safeguards, they are not infallible but they do  
45 monitor the construction. With respect to design, new house plans undergo a  
46 comprehensive engineering review with respect to sump pump discharge and overland  
47 flows. Ms. Tomfohrde stated she has no other opposition to the proposal.

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49 Member Biggert moved to close the public hearing for V-04-12, 646 W. Maple.  
50 Member Callahan seconded the motion.

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