

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
DECATUR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Thursday, August 13, 2020 4:00 P.M.  
Civic Center Theatre, Decatur Civic Center

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**I. Call to Order and Determination of a Quorum**

The, August 13, 2020 meeting of the Decatur Zoning Board of Appeals was called to order at 4:15 P.M. by Chairman Julie Lamb who determined a quorum was present.

The meeting was held with two Committee members participating through electronic attendance pursuant to Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-07 suspending the requirements of the Open Meetings Act requiring in-person attendance by members of a public body for the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.

Members Present: Kim Aukamp, Robert Brice,  
Zane Peterson, Jeff Taylor, Julie Lamb

Members Absent: Chris Brodnicki, Leslie Risby,

Staff Present: Greg Crowe, Amy Waks, Janet Poland

**II. Approval of Minutes: May 14, 2020**

It was moved and seconded (Taylor/Aukamp) to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2020 meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion carried unanimously.

**III. New Business**

**Case No. 20-04 Petition of DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, for a variance in the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance #3512 as amended, Sections XXV.B.2. and XXV.B.9.b.) to reduce the required setback line of an Electronic Message Unit from a residential district/use from 100 feet to 75 feet of the boundary of a residentially zoned district or residential use to allow for the construction of a sign with an electronic message unit for the existing school at 1499 WEST MAIN STREET**

Mr. Greg Crowe stated all three (3) petitions are for Electronic Message Units and are very similar.

Mr. Crowe discussed staff's recommendation for approval of the petition based on the staff report distributed to the Zoning Board of Appeals prior to the meeting (staff report is on file and is available for reviewing by request).

Discussion amongst the Zoning Board of Appeals members and City Staff followed Mr. Crowe's presentation including the vision clearance. Mr. Greg Crowe stated the Zoning Ordinance requires a vision clearance triangle which is a twenty-five (25) feet setback from any intersection which includes driveways and streets.

Ms. Kayla Peck, representative for the petitioner, was sworn in by Mrs. Janet Poland.

Ms. Peck stated all three (3) of the schools have old existing signs and the school district would like to slowly get all the school's signs updated. The Electronic Message Units will be able to provide information to the parents dropping off and picking up their children.

Mr. Robert Brice asked if the signs would shut off during the evening. Mr. Crowe stated the Zoning Ordinance requires the signs to only be operated from 6 A.M. to 11 P.M. in residential areas.

There were no objectors present.

It was moved and seconded (Taylor/Aukamp) to approve Case. No. 20-04 as recommended by staff.

Upon call of the roll, Commission members Kim Aukamp, Zane Peterson, Jeff Taylor and Chairman Julie Lamb voted aye. Commission member Robert Brice abstained. Chairman Lamb declared the motion carried.

**Case No. 20-05          Petition of DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, for a variance in the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance #3512 as amended, Sections XXV.B.2. and XXV.B.9.b.) to reduce the required setback line of an Electronic Message Unit from a residential district/use from 100 feet to 80 feet of the boundary of a residentially zoned district or residential use to allow for the construction of a sign with an electronic message unit for the existing school at 2500 SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET**

Mr. Crowe discussed staff's recommendation for approval of the petition based on the staff report distributed to the Zoning Board of Appeals prior to the meeting (staff report is on file and is available for reviewing by request).

There were no questions and no objectors present.

It was moved and seconded (Aukamp/Taylor) to approve Case. No. 20-05 as recommended by staff.

Upon call of the roll, Commission members Kim Aukamp, Robert Brice, Zane Peterson, Jeff Taylor and Chairman Julie Lamb voted aye. Chairman Lamb declared the motion carried.

**Case No. 20-06          Petition of DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, for a variance in the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance #3512 as amended, Sections XXV.B.2. and XXV.B.9.b.) to reduce the required setback line of an Electronic Message Unit from a residential district/use from 100 feet to 75 feet of the boundary of a residentially zoned district or residential use to allow for the construction of a sign with an electronic message unit for the existing school at 4735 EAST CANTRELL STREET**

Mr. Crowe discussed staff's recommendation for approval of the petition based on the staff report distributed to the Zoning Board of Appeals prior to the meeting (staff report is on file and is available for reviewing by request).

There were no questions and no objectors present.

It was moved and seconded (Brice/Peterson) to approve Case. No. 20-06 as recommended by staff.

Upon call of the roll, Commission members Kim Aukamp, Robert Brice, Zane Peterson, Jeff Taylor and Chairman Julie Lamb voted aye. Chairman Lamb declared the motion carried.

**IV. Appearance of Citizens**

No citizen expressed comments.

**V. Comments and Information from Commission Members**

No Commission members expressed comments.

**VI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved and seconded (Aukamp/Taylor) to adjourn the meeting.

Upon call of the roll, Commission members Kim Aukamp, Robert Brice, Zane Peterson, Jeff Taylor and Chairman Julie Lamb voted aye. Chairman Lamb declared the meeting adjourned at 4:27 P.M.