

**City of Portage
Board of Zoning Appeals
Monday, March 7, 2016
Municipal Building, Conference Room Two
Minutes**

Members Present: Traci Bartels; Adam Field; Mike Mulhern; Mike Paul; Jeff Wetzel

Members Absent: Dave Carlson (excused); Ryan Jahn, alternate

Also Present: Don & Candace Roeker, Portage Mini Warehouse, LLC

1. **Public hearing** – convened at 5:25pm.
2. **Call to order** – following public hearings, the determination meeting was called to order at 5:31pm by Chairman Paul.
3. **Roll call** – roll was taken with the above members present.
4. **Approval of minutes from previous meetings** – motion by Mulhern to approve, 2nd by Paul. Motion carried.
5. **The application for Donald Roeker, Portage Mini Warehouse LLC, 740 E. Albert Street, Portage, Wisconsin for a variance to Chapter 90, Article II, Section 90-36 (5) for exceeding the minimum street side setback on East Albert of 20 feet. The property is zoned B-4 General Business District.**

Said variance will allow a ground sign within 3 feet of the right of way on East Albert, a variance of 17 feet.

Mr. Roeker, the applicant, presented the variance request to the committee. Variance would allow placement of sign in front of his business on E. Albert St. At least 5 other nearby business have signs placed in a substantially similar manner to the variance requested. There is a city culvert, and a depressed bio-filter along the front of the property, then blacktop in front of the mini-warehouse building, limiting sign location alternatives within the existing ordinance. Field argued that a site hardship had been proven and that the variance should be approved on the basis of fairness, as many other businesses along the same street had been granted similar variances. Mulhern argued a hardship and not been proven and sign could be placed further back on the property.

Motion by Field to approve the variance request, 2nd by Wetzel. Motion carried, not unanimous. Variance granted.

6. **Adjournment** – motion to adjourn by Field, 2nd by Wetzel. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam R. Field
Secretary

Date Approved: 05/02/2016