

CITY OF ALBERT LEA
BOARD OF APPEALS
MEETING MINUTES

May 24, 2022 – 12:00 p.m.
City Center – Council Chambers

Board Members Present

Larry Baker, Ex-Officio
Colby Cunningham
Aaron Farries
Steve Guenthner
Craig Hoium, Chair
Jacob Peterson

Board Members Absent

Jacob Peterson

Staff in Attendance

Megan Boeck, City Planner

Interested Parties

Luke Monson

Board of Appeals Chair, Craig Hoium, called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

Farris made a motion to approve the agenda and Cunningham seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

Approval of Minutes

Cunningham made a motion to approve the minutes from April 27, 2022. Guenthner seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously on a voice vote.

Staff report prepared by Megan Boeck, City Planner, is to become part of these minutes by reference.

Appeal: VA2022-004

Boeck stated that the Albert Lea Bus Company has applied for a variance from the locational and site development standards in a B-2 zoning district to allow for an above ground fuel tank. The property has been used consistently as a trucking, transportation or contracting site throughout the past several decades. A CUP to allow the operation of a trucking company was issued in 1979 and a variance for an above ground diesel tank was permitted in 1986. The applicant stated that an increase in fleet size, the need for additional unleaded fueled buses and the logistics of fueling off-site prompted the need for a second above ground fuel tank.

Public Hearing opened at 12:07 p.m.

Hoiium opening the hearing to the public.

Luke Monson owns a rental property near the site and stated that the spruce trees that were used as screening are gone now and the tanks are very visible.

Public Hearing closed at 12:26 p.m.

Cunningham made a motion, seconded by Farris, to recommend that the City Council deny the application for variance from the locational and site development standards to allow for an above ground fuel tank due to lack of practical difficulty.

The motion passed on a 4-0 voiced vote.

New Business

Boeck stated that another variance application has been submitted and the next meeting date would be on Tuesday June 21st, 2022.

Commissioner Communications

None.

Staff Communications

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.m. The motion to adjourn was made by Cunningham and seconded by Farris. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Boeck
City Planner

Craig Hoium
Chair, Board of Appeals