

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY OF OTTAWA ZONING BOARD
OF APPEALS – held October 16, 2014**

Mayor Bob Eschbach
City Council Members

Gentlemen:

A meeting of the Ottawa Zoning Board of Appeals was held on Thursday, October 16 in the Ottawa city council chambers. Members present were John Stone, Charlie Sheridan, Vince Kozsdiy, Aaron Battistelli and Todd Volker. Chairman Sheridan opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

John Stone moved to accept the minutes of the September 2014 meeting. This was seconded by Vince Kozsdiy and was unanimously approved.

Chairman Charlie Sheridan reviewed the basic guidelines for variances, then opened the floor to new business, with one item on the agenda:

Side yard setback Variance Request

A request from Joshua Reck of Ottawa, for a side yard setback variance (Ottawa, Illinois Municipal Code Sec. 118-4-A-4c) in order to construct a garage addition, at Lot 4 in Block 1 in Day's Addition in the City of Ottawa, La Salle County, Illinois, commonly known as 211 E. Van Buren Street. Mr. Reck explained that he was unaware of the need for a variance prior to constructing a small addition to his garage. He pointed out his difficulty in locating property stakes and determining the lot line.

His adjacent neighbor, Grace Reichert, objected to the use of the 4' x 12' garage addition as a chicken run. Several neighbors present opposed the granting of the variance, including Judy Parker, Bob Halterman and Debbie Skolnik. Their concerns included a concern for procedure, a concern about chicken noise, and a concern about lot line location.

Dr. Casanova, the wife of Mr. Reck, observed that the project was done in good faith and that they had hoped not to disturb neighbors.

John Stone moved to deny the variance request, the motion was seconded by Vince Kozsdiy, and was approved with four ayes and one abstention (Volker).

Vince Kozsdiy moved to grant Mr. Reck 30 days to move the garage addition if the city council supports the Zoning Board of Appeal's variance denial. The motion was seconded by Aaron Battistelli and received four ayes and one abstention (Volker).

Todd Volker then moved to adjourn; this was seconded by John Stone and unanimously approved. The meeting concluded at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
TODD VOLKER