CONCORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS LAKE COUNTY, OHIO REGULAR MEETING

Held via Webex Teleconference and YouTube Live Streaming

Concord Town Hall 7229 Ravenna Road Concord, Ohio 44077

May 13, 2020 7:00 p.m.

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Board of Zoning Appeals members present:

Ivan Valentic, Chairman Francis Sweeney, Member Blair Hamilton, Member Brandon Dynes, Member Chris Jarrell, Member

Also Present:

Heather Freeman, Planning & Zoning Director/Zoning
Inspector
Stephanie Landgraf, Esq., Legal Counsel
 (present via teleconference

Melton Reporting
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7:02 p.m.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Good evening. The Board of Zoning Appeals for May 13, 2020, is now in session. I would like to introduce my board. To my far, far left is Skip Sweeney and Brandon Dynes. I am Ivan Valentic, and Chris Jarrell to my right and Blair Hamilton to my far, far right. And then Heather Freeman, our Zoning Inspector, is in the audience.

Under the advice of counsel, we ask that anyone speaking tonight, they must be sworn in. So if you plan on speaking, please stand and raise your right hand.

(Whereupon, the speakers were sworn en masse.)

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: All right. Thank you. Please be seated.

This evening when presenting your case or commenting, come to the microphone and state your name and address and also confirm that you've been sworn in.

Heather, were the legal notices published in a timely manner?

MS. FREEMAN: Yes, they were.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: All right. Thank you.

We have Old Business first. We have one item,

Appeal Number 2018-41, Mr. Randy Viviani, of 7757 Concord LLC,
they had requested that this gets tabled again. It's been on
Old Business for a while and will continue to stay there
tabled, correct?

Next is the New Business. First is Variance Number 2020-58 Paul C. and Maria J. Lazuka requesting a variance from Section 31.04(B)(1), which requires permanent in-ground pools to be enclosed on the property by a fence not less than four

feet in height to prevent access to the pool except through a controlled point; Section 31.04(B)(2), which requires doors and gates to be equipped with suitable locking devices to prevent unauthorized access; and Section 31.04(B)(4), which states that the pool cover is not considered a suitable alternative to the enclosure requirements, for the property located at 12863 Girdled Road, Permanent Parcel Number 08-A-008-A-00-020.

Somebody please come up and present the case.

MR. FORBES: Mr. Chairman, members of the board, my name is Glenn Forbes and I am the attorney for the applicants, Paul C. and Maria Lazuka. There are three pieces, I think, to this presentation. The first piece is that the ordinance is obviously in place for safety, and the system that they have on their pool, the Safe-T 3 automatic pool cover, is incredibly safe. In fact, I will argue that it's safer than a fence.

The second point to be considered by the board is that this area is sparsely populated. This is not a situation where you've got a neighborhood and a whole bunch of kids.

Thirdly, the neighbors are in favor of this, and I have submitted their letters. This property has a neighbor on either side and a park across the street. So there is really hardly any -- There is hardly ever anybody around.

So turning to the first point, certainly, the applicants want safety, too. They have little kids. And if you have the pictures in front of you, you will see them and I will ask Ms. Freeman to play a video. This system is, it almost makes the pool like a waterbed and you will see that in the in the video. The reason I say it's safer than a fence is

that this is not like an ordinary pool cover. This is not like where a child -- and we all know how ingenious children are -- can get over the fence, undo the lock, do whatever, and if they get in the pool, with a regular, everyday pool cover, they're at the bottom real quick. But this is specifically designed for safety and it protects whoever would be there for whatever reason.

Now, these people that market the Safe-T 3 automatic pool cover, as part of their marketing, say there's never been an accident, there's never been a problem. Well, I'm kind of suspicious. So I did a nationwide search on Case Maker, the Ohio State Bar Association's case reporting service, and I found no cases in any state anywhere in the union regarding this automatic pool cover or the company that makes it as a defendant.

If you look at the specifications, which I have given to you, you will see, and we acknowledge, that this system requires maintenance. And the last picture in your packet, if I am remembering correctly, shows a pump. It's an automatic pump that pumps the water out whenever there is water that would tend to weight down this cover. And whenever the, whenever there is the threat of rain, that pumps out there. And I think you also have a picture of what looks kind of like a wall with an electrical outlet on it. That's the system that drives the pump.

In addition to that, the applicants maintain two services to keep this maintained. There is a service called High-Tech which comes out and opens and closes the pool every year, and they're familiar with this system and they check it. Every other week, a representative of Lillie's Pools comes out

and, certainly, you know, they make sure the chlorine is right but they also make sure that this pool cover is doing its job.

I almost hesitate to call it a pool cover because it's not what you think of as a pool cover. The pictures that you have will show that this is a rural area. This is not a neighborhood where there are kids running around all the time. And there is also a picture there of the children of the applicants on the pool cover. And if Ms. Freeman would put it on, I'd like to play a video to show how this pool cover operates.

(Whereupon, the video was started.)

As you can see, there is three children on the, on that pool cover climbing in and out. It really operates almost like a waterbed and that's because of the way its constructed. As I look at that, I don't think that anybody could get hurt. They'd have to really try. They'd have to bang their head against the side of the pool or something. And, again, that's different than what a normal pool cover does. A normal pool cover is just to keep heat in the pool and it collapses as soon as anybody gets on. Here, we've got a little guy walking across the pool, climbing up on the diving board.

(Whereupon, the video concluded.)

So because of that, the safety has been established. There does not seem to be an issue that this is unsafe. And as I said before, I think it's safer than a fence. Nobody can climb it. Nobody can jimmy the lock. And as I said before, this is not a neighborhood. This is not a place where you've got a lot of kids. Now, I know that there would be some speculation that maybe somebody was in the park that would go

across the street and get in trouble. But I think, as the 1 2 video shows, you can't get in trouble. And beyond that, it hasn't happened. 3 Finally, the neighbors are in favor. You've got the 5 letters in front of you and I know that, and you probably have figured it out, too, that Walter Lazuka and his wife are 6 relatives. They're Paul's parents. But I don't know that 7 8 that taints their support for this because, if anybody thought that their grandchildren were in any danger, they wouldn't be 9 10 supporting this. Now, I mentioned to both Paul and Maria and Walter 11 12 that, if they would call in, they could be recognized when 13 there is comments from the public. So if there are any questions, I will be happy to answer it. Otherwise, that's 14 15 the end of my presentation. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Does anyone from the board have 16 17 any questions? MR. HAMILTON: I do. 18 19 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Go ahead. MR. HAMILTON: If no one else does. 20 21 Mr. Forbes, this cover needs to be manually 22 deployed; does it not? 23 MR. FORBES: Manually what? 24 MR. HAMILTON: Manually deployed. 25 MR. FORBES: Yes. 26 MR. HAMILTON: Someone has to actually physically do 27 something to cover the pool. 28 MR. FORBES: It depends. Flip a switch, yes. MR. HAMILTON: And, likewise, it has to be rolled up 29 again, right? 30

MR. FORBES: Flip a switch. 1 2 MR. HAMILTON: So is that switch safety protected? Is there any way for anyone else to flip that switch? 3 MR. FORBES: My understanding -- And if Paul is on the line, I will have him indicate it to the board. My 5 understanding is that switch is safety, safety protected 6 because, as you saw in the video, there is three little kids 7 and it would not be wise to have that switch available. 8 MR. HAMILTON: So your understanding would be that 9 there is some kind of key pad or code or something that --10 MR. FORBES: Correct. And, again, if Mr. Lazuka is 11 on the line, and I hope he is, he can explain that to you 12 13 better. MR. HAMILTON: And then a second question, you did 14 mention the pump because the pool will collect water on top. 15 MR. FORBES: Correct. 16 17 MR. HAMILTON: A few inches of a puddle is enough for an infant to drown in. That pump has to be manually 18 19 deployed, also. MR. FORBES: No. It has to be, when the cover goes 20 21 back on, it has to be placed but it's automatic. 22 MR. HAMILTON: But somebody has to place it there. 23 MR. FORBES: Somebody has to place it there for 24 sure, yeah. MR. HAMILTON: Okay. So I am not home. It rains. 25 26 I've got water on my pool. How does that pump get out there? 27 MR. FORBES: As a matter of fact, when I was talking 28 to Mr. and Mrs. Lazuka, they watched the weather. And whenever there is a threat of rain, it's out there. In fact, 29 as a practical matter, unless it's, you know, there is no 30

threat of rain, every time the cover goes back on the pump goes out.

MR. HAMILTON: So there is going to be an intervention required.

MR. FORBES: There is.

MR. HAMILTON: Again, you gave us the owner's manual for the cover and I read, on page 5 -- I don't know if you want to read this to the board or not or have me read it -- but the second paragraph on page 5, under Pool Safety, says, "Cover-Pools recommends 'layers' of protection. The cover is a reliable layer; however, you should not rely on any one layer to be fail proof."

They further go on to say, "Don't rely on one system - layering," in quotes, "pool cover, fence, alarm, et cetera," end quote, "safety precautions provides the strongest safeguard." Now, would you not think that the zoning that is in place is in place because of those statements from the manufacturer of the cover itself?

MR. FORBES: Well, and as a matter of fact, if you're reading what I think you're reading, that statement is required by the federal government. And, certainly, in anything in life, you can triple, quadruple and quintuple safety measures. But especially based on the video and based on the pictures, the situation we have there, as I said before, is safer than a fence because somebody gets on there, they're not going anywhere.

MR. HAMILTON: Safer than a fence, a closed, locked fence that some child is going to be able to breach to get in the pool?

MR. FORBES: Correct. There are all sorts of legal

cases running around of children being able to get over a fence or around a fence or through a fence.

MR. HAMILTON: So it seems to me there is quite a bit of vigilance involved with this cover when it's in the open position. It would require that somebody is constantly watching the pool to make sure that nobody wanders into it.

MR. FORBES: Well, in this situation, certainly, when the applicants' children are out there, they're out there.

MR. HAMILTON: Correct.

MR. FORBES: And so when, and when the pool is done with its uses, then flip the switch and the cover goes over it.

MR. HAMILTON: So we should take on faith that a nice day in the summer, you have your pool open, kids come out, they use it, they get tired, they leave, they go off to do something else. I'm always going to cover that pool at that point?

MR. FORBES: Well --

MR. HAMILTON: Instead of leaving it open?

MR. FORBES: Well, Mr. and Mrs. Lazuka are always out there. So, I mean, to the extent, to the extent you take the position that you take on faith that, once the kids are done with it, the parents close it up, well, yeah, but they do.

MR. HAMILTON: Okay. All right. I think I am done.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Just to add on to -- I saw that
on page 5 as well, Blair. Also on page 5 towards the bottom
of the first column, it says, "Enclose the pool with a
barrier. In fact, fencing may be required in certain areas."
Check your local zoning codes.

I do, there is -- Blair had a question. I want to 1 2 give Mr. Lazuka, if he is on the phone, the ability to answer that question if we -- Brandon, real quick? 3 MR. DYNES: Yeah. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Mr. Lazuka, are you on the 5 phone? 6 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Yeah. 7 8 MS. JARRELL: He's watching on YouTube. MR. SWEENEY: Yeah, just turn --9 MS. JARRELL: You have to ask him to turn his TV 10 down, yeah. 11 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: If everyone on the phone can 12 13 lower their volume or mute their TV or YouTube channel that they're watching. We're getting feedback. 14 15 MS. FREEMAN: Do you want to ask again if he's on the line? 16 17 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Sure. Mr. Lazuka, are you still there? 18 19 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Can you hear? CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yeah, I can hear you. 20 21 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Okay. 22 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: So the question, Blair, is in 23 regards to the switch for the pool and where is that located and how that is controlled? 24 MR. HAMILTON: Correct. 25 26 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Sure. Yeah, the automatic safety cover is situated on the house about 5 feet. 27 28 MR. DYNES: You might want to hold on for a second, Mr. Lazuka. 29 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: What's that? 30

MR. DYNES: He needs to be sworn in. Maybe 1 2 Stephanie can help facilitate that if she's still on the line. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Oh, yeah. 3 MR. DYNES: Or at least identify that he has been --Yeah, identify him and swear him in. 5 MS. FREEMAN: CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Mr. Lazuka, we do have to swear 6 7 you in because I don't believe you were on the line when we 8 sworn in everybody that was speaking tonight. So can you 9 just --10 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Correct. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: So let me just swear you in. 11 12 (Whereupon, Mr. Paul Lazuka was sworn in.) 13 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: All right. Thank you. Sorry, sir. Go ahead. 14 15 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: So you are asking for the --MR. DYNES: Hold on one second, just a moment. 16 17 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: For the record, can you state your name and address for the record? 18 19 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Sure. Paul C. Lazuka, 12863 Girdled Road, Concord, Ohio 44077. 20 21 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. We can go forward now. 22 Thank you. 23 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: The switch for the automatic 24 safety cover is what you're asking for, correct? CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Correct. 25 26 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: That's situated roughly 5 feet 27 above the ground and it is controlled through a key that my 28 wife and I use that is not in possession of the children at all. And when I say that, it's kept in a distance that or a 29 height that they cannot reach. In fact, it can't even be kept

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in the key hole for a lengthy period of time, so we take it 1 2 out and we stick in it our key box. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. 3 MR. HAMILTON: Thank vou. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Anything else, Blair? 5 MR. HAMILTON: No. 6 CHATRMAN VALENTIC: Does that answer it? 7 8 MR. DYNES: Next --CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Brandon has a few questions. 9 MR. DYNES: Mr. Lazuka and Mr. Forbes, first, 10 Mr. Forbes, thank you very much for a very concise 11 presentation. I am interested in why you won't put up a 12 13 fence. Is it cost or is there some other reason? Is the topography of the land prohibitive? Why not put up a fence? 14 15 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Well, I think, I think Glenn Forbes said it best. We're across from Girdled Road 16 17 Reservation and which, as you know, is roughly 1,100 acres. And we don't, we don't live in a development, so there is no 18 19 You know, we just don't live in a Summerwood or a Hunt Club and there's -- we don't get any other kids on our 20 21 property other than our own. And as Mr. Forbes said, when our kids are out there, 22 23 we're watching them. And if we do have a gathering, we are 24 always out there. There is plenty of adults watching. 25 obviously, as you heard Mr. Forbes say, my parents live on the 26 eastern side of us and the Condons -- I think you have that letter from the Condons -- live on the western portion of us. 27 28 You can read what they've said as well. MR. DYNES: I appreciate that. I guess my question, 29

in part, is, as a Concord Board of Zoning Appeals, we are

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tasked with protecting the neighborhood, the other residents. And if your parents were to sell their home or somebody else, the Condons were to sell their home or if they had guests over there, invitees to their home or otherwise, or even at your house, while I understand and appreciate your diligence and, certainly, everything you do to protect your own children, I am sure you are very vigilant about that.

I think where I struggle is understanding why a fence doesn't go up. And if those houses sell or if someone else does wander onto the property, which happens, what then? What protections are afforded them? And I think maybe there is another part of that, is how do you, when the cover itself, we know is all completely subject to human manifest -- human mechanical abilities to put it out and release it and so on and so forth. If you are not home, are you able to do that with a switch, or if you leave and it's open? There is a variety of circumstances I think we all certainly appreciate. And I am not simply trying to be argument here but I think there are so many factors. I am interested to hear from you and Mr. Forbes how we are going to address those and how we, as a Board of Zoning Appeals, overcome those in light of our statute which indicates that, in fact, you must have a fence and that a cover is not sufficient with that.

MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Sure, and I understand. I understand. So I guess, at that point, it comes down to you just taking my word for it that we are very, very, very strict with that cover. So I understand. You know, if you were to know me personally, I am extremely, extremely strict about this. And I know that that may not come into play but that cover is always on. If there is no one out there, that cover

is on. And it may be your word against mine or anything.

And I understand you're not being argumentative. You're just questioning, and that's how we get to know each other here. So that, I mean, it's just always on. I mean, I guess you could always argue a hot tub. Say you own a hot tub. Do you put a --

MR. DYNES: Well, I think --

MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Anyone can drown in a hot tub. Anyone can drown in a pond.

MR. DYNES: I appreciate that.

MR. PAUL LAZUKA: So do you put a cover on a pond?

MR. DYNES: Mr. Lazuka.

MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Do you put a fence around just a hot tub? So, and we have covers on both. So, and they're always on. If we're not using it, they are on. And I think you saw in that video just the structure of this cover is, it's extremely strong. And I understand where you're coming from as well and, say, less than if it was off. But it just, in our circumstances, just us personally, that doesn't happen ever. The pool is within view of -- We have plenty of windows in the back and we know when it's on and off. And if there are people out there, it's open; and if there is no one out there, it's closed.

And also, obviously, you heard Mr. Forbes, like I said, regarding the neighbors. And we just don't live in that type of environment that lends to having people around, like, people wandering over. And I understand if neighbors moved out and stuff but we're very, very vigilant on keeping that shut.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. Thank you.

MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Sure. Thank you. 1 2 MR. FORBES: And may I add, cost is a factor. It's very expensive to put up that kind of fence on that piece of 3 land. 5 MR. DYNES: I understand. Mr. Lazuka, I understand. 6 I have a pool. I have three young children. I have a fence and I have a cover. And I am not suggesting because I have 7 8 that you should but I think that we have a, we have a tough 9 way here as a Board of Zoning Appeals overcoming that. And I 10 appreciate your word and I appreciate that we don't know each other and I'd like to trust you. I know your lawyer very well 11 and he's remarkably capable and competent, has a stellar 12 13 reputation. I consider him a friend. So I appreciate all 14 that but I think we have a very difficult task here that I am 15 trying to understand and wrap my head around. So thank you. MS. JARRELL: Mr. Lazuka, I saw in the manual that 16 17 the operation of the pool requires a PIN number; is that correct? 18 19 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Incorrect. A VIN number, you 20 said? 21 MS. JARRELL: A PIN number, a code that you would 22 have to enter in order to operate it. 23 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: No, no, it's a key. So you're 24 saying the automatic pool cover, right? MS. JARRELL: Yes. 25 26 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Yeah, no, that's a key. 27 MS. JARRELL: Okay. 28 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: You can opt for the VIN number as well but we don't have that. We have the key. So you have to 29 physically stick a key into a hole, the key hole 5 feet above 30

the ground to actually turn it to either cover or uncover. 1 2 MS. JARRELL: But you and your wife are the only ones that have access to the key, correct? 3 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: I am sorry. Yes, my wife and I are the only ones with access, yes. So there is no -- There 5 are two separate keys, one is put in storage and the other one 6 7 is in our key box. 8 MS. JARRELL: Thank you. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Anything else, Chris? 9 MS. JARRELL: 10 No. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Skip, do you have any questions? 11 MR. SWEENEY: 12 No. 13 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: You good? Anything else, Brandon? You good? 14 15 MR. DYNES: No, thank you. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: You can be seated. 16 17 MR. FORBES: Thank you. I don't know if Mr. Walter 18 is -- wants to speak. 19 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yeah, I am going to ask if there is anyone else. 20 21 MR. FORBES: Okay. Thank you. 22 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Real quick, I am just to, even 23 though -- I am sure no one else but I am going to ask if 24 anyone in the room is here to speak, wants to speak for or 25 against this appeal? 26 (No response.) 27 Okay. I just want to make sure, give everyone a 28 So then is there anyone else on the phone that would like to speak for the appeal? 29 30 MR. PAUL LAZUKA: Let me -- Just one second. I have

to step away from the computer. 1 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: I was going to ask one more time 2 if there is anyone on the phone that would like to speak for 3 the appeal. MR. WALTER LAZUKA: Yes, this is Walter Lazuka. 5 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Hi, Walter. Can you state your 6 address for the record? 7 8 MR. WALTER LAZUKA: Yes, Walter Lazuka. 9 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: And your address, sir? MR. WALTER LAZUKA: I am sorry. I didn't understand 10 that. 11 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: We need your address for the 12 13 record. MR. WALTER LAZUKA: 12897 Girdled Road. 14 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: And were you sworn in earlier? 15 MR. WALTER LAZUKA: I don't believe so. 16 17 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. Can you please raise your 18 right hand. I am going to swear you in. 19 (Whereupon, Mr. Walter Lazuka was sworn in.) CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: All right. Thank you. You're 20 21 sworn in. Please go ahead and state anything you want for the 22 testimony for or against the appeal. 23 MR. WALTER LAZUKA: Well, as they said, as Glenn 24 said earlier, I am Paul's father. I live to the east of his 25 property, right next door. And I've been to their house quite 26 a few times, being they live so close, just to visit them and 27 the grandchildren. But I've actually seen the grandchildren 28 on the cover itself. And as the video, I was watching your video there. The video shows it's -- I felt very comfortable 29 with them. I had never seen a cover like that before and it 30

seems to be -- They're my grandchildren. I love them very much and I would never -- I'd say something to somebody, especially the parents there, if I felt that there was something unsafe about that.

I happen to agree that a fence is not necessary. If you saw the layout of the land here, we're really in the woods here, semi rural part of Concord here. I am just looking at it now. Across the street is the Girdled Road Reservation. You don't see anybody there except once in a while they're in there on paths there, the people that come to visit the park. But they never come across the street here and we've never had anybody come from there.

And on the other side of Paul and Maria are the Condons. They, again, are -- They don't have any children. I think they have one older child there but he's never been here. So it's really not a suburban-type situation here. It's very rural. We had a family doing here the other day and they were opening it up and the whole family was here and the kids were swimming in there and there was never once, you know -- And I was sitting there watching. As I said earlier, and I can't say it enough times, I love my grandchildren very much, as many people, grandparents do. And I just want to let you know that I don't see the need for a fence here. But, once again, I don't know if you have any questions that you'd like to ask.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Anyone down there, anything else? Any questions?

No, I think we're all set. Thank you very much.

MR. WALTER LAZUKA: Oh, you're very welcome. Thank you. Thank you for your consideration.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. 1 MR. WALTER LAZUKA: Bye. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: 3 Bye. Is there anyone else on the phone that's speaking for this appeal? Is there anyone on the phone that would like 5 to speak against the appeal? 6 MS. LAZUKA: Yes, this is Maria Lazuka, Paul's wife. 7 8 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Oh, okay. Hi, Maria. MS. LAZUKA: I just wanted to call in and --9 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: I am sorry. 10 MS. LAZUKA: -- thank you for your time. 11 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Maria, I am sorry, but I am 12 13 guessing I've got to swear you in. MS. LAZUKA: Yes, absolutely. 14 15 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Please raise your right hand. (Whereupon, Ms. Lazuka was sworn in.) 16 17 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: All right. Thank you. Go ahead. 18 19 MS. LAZUKA: I guess, first and foremost, I wanted to thank you for your time. I do want to add that, being an 20 21 ER nurse for UH at Geauga, I know and I have seen firsthand 22 the dangers of water, swimming, and I understand water safety, 23 obviously. But I remember and I recall around this time every 24 single year for the past two years, a famous skier, Bode 25 Miller, he comes out and talks about how they lost their child 26 and it is an extremely sad story. And the main thing that he discusses is how a door was left unlatched and how that child 27 28 got through that unlocked door and was able to get into the uncovered pool and drown. And we, obviously, want to avoid 29 that a hundred percent. That is why we installed this cover, 30

that is why it is always shut when we're not in use, and that is why we are 100 percent responsible. We understand the dangers. We understand what safety is and it is extremely important to have this safety cover.

When you have -- When someone gets into a fence, a fenced-in pool deck, they have 100 percent exposure. A child can get through a latch, can climb over a fence. They can get into an open pool and drown. If a child walks onto our property, there is absolutely no way they can have access to the water at all. We have a two-year-old and we understand what it's like. Our two-year-old rides her scooter, her bike, her -- whatever she has around the pool because it is that safe.

So we understand the dangers and we also understand the safety, so I really ask for your consideration in this matter. It is very important and I feel like this is the time to maybe upgrade and under -- how these covers are truly a safe aspect in this situation. So, again, if a latch -- I couldn't even imagine falling sleep at night knowing that my pool had no cover on it and I only had a fence. That is just the scariest thing to me. The fact that we have this auto cover and there is absolutely no access to our water unless Paul and I are there is the most amazing thing.

So I ask you for you to keep that, you know, in your mind and to understand how important the safety cover is and how a fence doesn't even mean anything in this situation, really. So thank you for your time again.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Thank you. Any questions for Maria? Okay. We're good. All right, thank you.

MS. LAZUKA: Thank you. Bye-bye.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Bye.

So if there is no further questions, the public hearing for Appeal Number 2020-58 is now closed to the public. Can I get a motion? Okay. We're going to hold on. Do we -- We have to motion each one of these or can we -- Do we have to motion each? Because we have to vote on these separately, so do I need a motion just to approve this variance and to second it and then just the whole thing and then we can have a discussion to the board? Just when I call the vote, right, I have to break it into three, correct?

MS. FREEMAN: Three separate motions.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Three separate motions, okay. All right. We will just talk about it all at once though.

MS. FREEMAN: Yeah.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. So the board understand, this just came up tonight. We have to vote on this in three separate votes, one for Section 31.04 for the fence variance, one for Section 31.04(B)(2) for the gate, and then one for 31.04(B)(4) for the use of a cover. Okay? So -- But we can discuss it as a board, I think, all at once and then we will have to call a vote for each one of those and vote for them then. Okay? Make sense to everybody? It kind of makes sense to me.

So I am entertain a motion to approve Variance Number 2020-58, requesting a variance from Section $31.04\,(\mathrm{B})\,(1)$.

MS. JARRELL: So moved.

MR. DYNES: Second.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Open for discussion on the board. Again, we will discuss all three of the variance

requests. Go for it. 1 MR. DYNES: Okay. We already had a motion and a 2 second, so I didn't know. We're just discussing as the 3 variance applies to Section 31.04(B)(1), which requires 5 permanent in-ground pools to be enclosed by a fence not less that four feet, correct? We're not discussing the secondary 6 7 elements of (B), of 31.04(B)(2) or (B)(4) at this time. 8 MS. JARRELL: We're talking about all of them at 9 once and then we'll vote on them individually. 10 MR. DYNES: I would move that we would -- okay. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Is that --11 MS. JARRELL: I mean, it makes sense to talk about 12 13 them all at once. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yeah. So how about if I, how 14 about if I put forward the motion --15 MR. DYNES: Stephanie, go ahead. 16 17 MS. FREEMAN: Stephanie, unfortunately, had to leave the call. She did tell me that we do need to vote on them 18 19 individually and maybe we do need to discuss them individually as well, probably. 20 21 MS. JARRELL: I just don't think it makes sense 22 but --23 MR. SWEENEY: I don't either. 24 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. All right. 25 MS. JARRELL: What do you lawyers think? 26 MR. DYNES: Are we open for discussion on our motion 27 as to Variance 2020-58, Section, as it applies to Section 28 31.04(B)(1)? CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: (B)(1). My guess, I am going to 29 assume, Brandon, that after we talk about (B)(1), when we get 30

to the other ones, there won't be much.

MR. DYNES: I don't disagree.

Start the discussion on (B)(1), anybody? I can start. I am fine to start. I have -- I am with Brandon, what I heard Brandon say. I am having a hard time with this. And I think it wouldn't hurt for us to look at the Duncan Factors maybe as a group and kind of go through them because that would help people make their decision. I am open for that. I have not heard a reason that -- I haven't heard anything that would say that we should approve this at this point. I haven't heard what the difficulty here is in this matter. What I have heard is that a lot of people don't live in this neighborhood and that the cover is very safe, which I don't disagree with, that the cover is very safe, but I haven't heard a reason why a fence couldn't be installed with the cover.

MR. DYNES: Well, I tend to agree with you. I think it's important. And, again, I respect everything that Mr. Forbes and the Lazukas were saying and I appreciate what they're staying. I think it's really important to look at Duncan Factor Number 6, in and of itself, to the exclusion of the others, tells us clearly, can the problem be resolved by other means? It can be resolved by a fence.

And I think what's telling about that is the initial plans for the pool they put in. They didn't purchase the property like this. They didn't get it this way without any knowledge. When they put it in, their plans indicated they were also installing a fence and a separate contractor was doing that, but then the fence was never put in. I don't see a hardship there. I see it's a matter of convenience or cost

to them and a cost savings.

And I struggle with it, I really struggle with it because our text is so specific about this and it's very clear what we can do. And I, look, I get it, as I mentioned. And it's not about me. I have a pool. I have three kids. I put a fence around. I put locks. I put alarms on my fence. I have a cover. I did everything I could. And I appreciate the Lazukas. I am sure they're wonderful people and I am sure they're very, very concerned about their children. My concern — That's great. Nobody wants anything to happen to anybody.

My concern though is if another child comes over to a neighboring property, if someone wanders over, as we noted, or someone just gets there, or because this has one key that we've been told the other one is locked up and the one key, if that key is misplaced, or how do they control if they're away from home and they forget to close it? How does that happen? I understand that relatives next door but how does that happen in an immediate sense to protect anybody else from that? And I think that's our charge. That's our charge from our text and I think that we bear that responsibility.

And I think, as you noted, again, with all due respect to them, I haven't heard anything that says, you know, this is why we can't do it, we can't put up a fence. And the Duncan Factor -- I mean, look, I'd love to try to find a way to understand this a little bit better. If I am missing something, I am open to that from anybody. But I guess I really struggle with this one. And, again, if the next-door neighbor's house sells or Mr. Lazuka, Walter next door, he sells and somebody else moved in, then what? We still have that element there.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yeah. And like you said,

Number 5, did the property owner purchase property knowing?

They knew that there was a restriction. They had a plan in place at some point to put in fencing.

The other one is very substantial. Yes, I'd call it substantial. They're not modifying the fence. They're just, no fence at all. So I would consider it a substantial, you know, variance request, too.

Skip?

MR. SWEENEY: Well, you guys have said it. I don't feel that -- You know me. I am a Duncan standard applier, and I don't believe any of the standards were met in this case, unfortunately. I am sure that the Lazukas are concerned about safety and that's really not the issue here. Of course, they would be concerned about safety. We don't doubt that.

But rarely do we have an answer to our question provided within, within the zoning code itself. I mean, it states, "A swimming pool cover is not considered a suitable alternative." And I know we're discussing (B)(1) but I don't -- I can't separate that. So, you know, in this day and age of -- I understand, you know, we live in rural area and Girdled Road is getting even more rural as it moves out. In this day and age of play dates with kids, there is more kids coming over than sometimes normally would come from a neighborhood. And it really isn't -- It's, it's, you know, people think they're going to be safe and they have all intentions of being safe and we understand that.

But it's -- I've had personal experience with drownings and litigation and the reasons and the causes and the liabilities, and it's tragic. And I can tell you from

numerous situations that drownings occur due to the best of circumstances and you cannot have enough safety. You cannot. It cannot be done. And what happens is the child that usually dies literally is unaccounted for for 30 seconds or a minute. And next thing you know, they're in the pool. I have seen it over and over and over again. And it's just tragic, it's terrible, and I would never want that to happen.

But there is a reason. And I think Brandon stated that one of our goals, one of our rules or one of our duties here is safety and I don't think we address safety very often in a lot of these variances. We don't really give it a thought because there really isn't any safety issue, so to speak. And I just, I feel an extra duty in this case.

MS. JARRELL: Well, I can certainly appreciate what everybody is saying. I can certainly appreciate the safety aspects of the code. But there are situations. And while we're charged to execute and enforce the Resolution, there are situations that are extenuating and different circumstances. In this particular case, we do have a pool cover manual that stipulates additional safety measures, and of course they're going to say that. As Mr. Forbes pointed out, it is mandated by the federal government. We know that the government — Just watch a pharmaceutical commercial, I mean, with all of the side effects that they have to, have to mention. We know all that. So that's that.

The second thing is this is -- They're on seven acres. This is not a development. They are -- It's highly unlikely that kids are going to wander in from the park or from an adjacent property and jump into their pool.

The third thing is that, with the code, technologies

have advanced. This is obviously a very, very safe pool cover. There is no question. I mean, we see it. We saw the video, saw the kids jumping on it. And it's probably, it probably is safer than a fence. And I say that because I have an above-ground pool and I am not required to have a fence and I live in a development. And you can't tell me that some child might, curious child could wander into my yard. I have many kids living around. They could pull a yard chair up and get into that pool.

So why do we allow an above-ground pool owner that follows the Resolution to not have a fence? Why don't we fence all of the ponds in the parks? I mean, here, we have seven acres. We have an extremely safe, great technology that makes it very safe. We have parents who are obviously very involved. They are the only ones that have the key. The grandparents live next door.

Brandon, I appreciate you saying that, you know, if somebody else moves in but these are, these are different circumstances. So I would just suggest and urge my fellow board members to consider these factors. I mean, these are parents. I mean, good Lord, we have to have the government save us all from ourselves. These are parents who are watching their children. They are not going to let anyone wander in. They are keeping it closed. They -- And they are going to do everything that they possibly can.

I would contest that this pool cover is safer than a fence. They are in a very large, on a very large property.

And I didn't have -- I don't have to have a fence. So explain. It's not correlating. And there is always instances in our Resolution when we have to consider other things and I

think this is a perfect example of that.

MR. DYNES: I agree with everything Ms. Jarrell said. I think she makes credible points. I think the issue, however, is that it's not up to us. It's up to the Zoning Commission to decide what it is and we are strictly limited to what the text says and what the Duncan Factors say. And with applying those two things, we don't have any leeway. When we do that with area variances and other things, it's a completely different topic.

But if the Zoning Commission decides they want to fence in ponds, if they want to fence in above-ground pools, if they want to fence in whirlpools, hot tubs, all those other things, rivers, whatever it is, that's the Zoning Commission. We're not in that position to change the rules. We're in the position to apply them as they are to the applicants before us, and we do that by employing the Duncan Factors as indicated to us by the Supreme Court of Ohio.

I have no ill towards the Lazukas, nothing.

Mr. Forbes is highly respected. He's a friend of mine. And,

Ms. Jarrell, same thing with you and I agree with everything

you are saying. I personally, as I sit here, as I want to

find a way to make this happen for these people, I don't see

it and nothing has persuaded me when I look at the text and

look at the Duncan Factors and I look at the circumstances.

And no one has said to me, "We can't put up a fence because we

didn't know we needed a fence" -- They knew. It was on their

plans -- "We can't put up a fence because we can't afford a

fence. We can't put up a fence because no contractor will put

up a fence. We can't put up a fence because the topography of

the land prohibits putting up a fence." None of those things

have been brought to our attention. And without that -Again, I will say it a million times. I respect
them. I am confident they are vigilant and they love their
children and would never let anything happen. There is no
question about that. But that's not why we're here and we
don't have the ability to rewrite the text. We have the
ability to grant a variance if, in fact, we are persuaded by
all those factors that allow us to do that within our
discretion. I don't see it.

MR. HAMILTON: Final word?

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yeah.

MR. HAMILTON: So, Mr. Dynes, you have expressed my sentiments and I really don't think I have anything to add.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay, okay. So if there is no further discussion from the board, the question then is on the approval of Variance Number --

MR. DYNES: I have one more thing to say. I am sorry.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Oh, go ahead. Go for it.

MR. DYNES: I think also -- And forgive me. That was terribly rude. But I think it's important to note, too, if we do this for them, like we do with anything else in the community, every circumstance is different and every case you read in law school and everything you take, you take it as those facts are and you apply them, you apply the law to them as they are. They're all different.

But this is one that it's pretty hard then if we say, "Okay, this is acceptable for you," everybody else is going to say, "Oh, well, I love my children. I have this cover." Until the Zoning Commission tells us we're going to

change this text and until they dictate that to Ms. Freeman or the Trustees, whoever comes about and says, "This is what we're going to do because we realize these things are out there now that make this safer and we don't need the fencing requirement that we have," until that happens, I don't think we have any other opportunity and I think we put ourselves and this community in a very, very precarious position for everyone else that comes before us that says, "I am going to give my plans to the Zoning Department. It's going to say there's a fence and it's going to say there is a contractor doing it but I am not really going to do it. And if the Zoning Commission catches me, I am going to ask for a variance because the Board of Zoning Appeals will give those out in spite of what the text says." I think that's a very difficult and a slippery slope for us to go down. I am sorry. That was my final thought.

MS. JARRELL: The original plans they had may not even have had this type of pool cover, so changes do happen. I appreciate, you know, all the Duncan Factors. I don't think that you can answer them all affirmatively. You know, I think it's probably half and half. I know what we are charged with. But I am still, area variance or not, I am still going to look at it based on the circumstances as well and I think it's absolutely ridiculous that we would require that.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: All right. Anyone else?
Anything else to add? Blair, you're still good?

Okay. All right. Then the question is on the approval of the Variance Number 2020-58 for a variance from Section 31.04(B)(1). A yes vote is for the approval of the variance, a no vote denies the variance. Heather, please call

the vote. 1 2 MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Dynes? MR. DYNES: No. 3 Ms. Jarrell? MS. FREEMAN: MS. JARRELL: Yes. 5 MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Sweeney? 6 MR. SWEENEY: 7 No. MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Hamilton? 8 MR. HAMILTON: No. 9 MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Valentic? 10 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: No. 11 The variance for 31.04(B)(1) has been denied. 12 13 Okay. Next I will entertain a motion for Variance 14 Number 2020-58 for Section 31.04. Can I get a motion, please? 15 I am sorry. 31.04(B)(2). So we need a motion and then I need a second. 16 17 MR. SWEENEY: So moved. MR. DYNES: Second. 18 19 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Any discussion on this? MR. DYNES: You should read that, (B)(2). 20 21 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: What's that? 22 MR. DYNES: I would read the text after (B)(2). 23 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Oh, so, yeah, so (B)(2) requires 24 doors and gates to be equipped with suitable locking devices to prevent unauthorized access. So this variance is for the 25 26 gates and doors with authorized access only. Any discussion from the board? None? 27 28 I would call for a vote for Variance Number 2020-58, Section 31.04(B)(2), which requires doors and gates to be 29 equipped with suitable locking devices to prevent unauthorized 30

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access. Heather, please call the vote.
1
               MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Hamilton?
2
               MR. HAMILTON:
                             No.
3
               MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Sweeney?
5
               MR. SWEENEY: No.
               MS. FREEMAN:
                             Mr. Dynes?
6
               MR. DYNES: No.
7
               MS. FREEMAN: Ms. Jarrell?
8
               MR. SWEENEY: Yes.
9
10
               MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Valentic?
               CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: No.
11
12
               That variance has been denied as well.
13
               So next I would like to have a motion for Variance
14
    2020-58, for 31.04(B)(4), which states that a swimming pool
15
    cover is not considered a suitable alternative to the
    enclosure requirements. Can I get a motion?
16
17
               MR. SWEENEY: So moved.
               MR. DYNES: Second.
18
               CHAIRMAN VALENTIC:
19
                                   Second. Any discussion?
    Heather, I am going to -- So next is the vote. So approval
20
21
    for Variance Number 2020-58, from 31.04(B)(4), which states
22
    that a swimming pool cover is not considered a suitable
23
    alternative to the enclosure requirements, call for a vote.
24
               MS. FREEMAN:
                             Mr. Sweeney?
               MR. SWEENEY:
25
                             No.
               MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Hamilton?
26
               MR. HAMILTON: No.
27
               MS. FREEMAN: Ms. Jarrell?
28
               MS. JARRELL:
29
                             Yes.
30
               MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Dynes?
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MR. DYNES: No. 1 MS. FREEMAN: And Mr. Valentic? 2 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: No. 3 Unfortunately, that one has also been denied. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Forbes. Thank you, 5 Mr. and Mrs. Lazuka, for getting online and being patient with 6 7 us this evening. 8 MR. FORBES: Just to finish --CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: That's it. 9 MR. FORBES: I just had a comment. Looking at 10 myself on the screen makes me know that the salons have been 11 closed for a long time. (Laughter.) Thank you, all. 12 13 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Thank you. All right. So next on our agenda is Variance 14 15 Number 2020-59, Mr. Martin Crews is requesting a variance from Section 15.03(A)(6), Table 15.03-1, to allow for the 16 17 construction of an accessory building to be 1,200 square feet in lieu of the maximum 1,024 square feet permitted for lots 18 19 less than 2 acres for the property located at 8485 Painesville Warren Road, current parcel, current 20 21 Permanent Parcel Number 08-A-011-0-00-023-0. 22 Mr. Crews, come please come up and present your 23 case. 24 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: And also just as a reminder, 25 state your name and your address and confirm you've been sworn 26 in. 27 MR. CREWS: Martin Crews, 8485 Painesville Warren Road. And I'm here today --28 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: You've been sworn in, sir? 29 MR. CREWS: Yes. 30

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Thank you.

MR. CREWS: And I'm here to ask for a variance for our property of I think 176 square foot. We've only -- We bought the house in November and we moved out to this area basically for the specific fact to get a smaller house and a larger lot so we could build an outbuilding because I like to do crafts, my wife does crafts, do the antiques. I like to -- Plus, we got a couple old cars we're going to store. So the whole purpose of moving out here was to build this building. And we found a nice lot, 2 acre lot, two 1-acre lots there on Painesville Warren Road. Sounded like a perfect match. But once we got in, we found out there's an easement and there is a certain amount back from the road. So instead of having 2 acres, I got 1.9, 1.89, something like that, just technically. So --

MS. JARRELL: According to what? Because it says 2 acres on the Auditor's site.

MR. CREWS: Yeah, according to the Zoning Department.

MS. JARRELL: The .14 acres is the right-of-way. Why are we saying that he only has 1.86 acres when he has 2 acres?

MS. FREEMAN: The Zoning Resolution defines "lot" exclusive of the portion of the road right-of-way. So if you look at our definition of "lot," it does not include that portion of the right-of-way.

MS. JARRELL: Okay. So he's paying taxes on two 2 acres.

MS. FREEMAN: I don't know anything about taxes.

MR. CREWS: Paying tax on 2 acres. So what we did,

we found out that, with this lot, you couldn't build an outbuilding at one, a single lot. This lot becomes -- I combined both lots, made one lot, 2 acre lot. And so what the plan was is, you know, just to build this building on the extra lot there. And, you know, we are going to build the building, pretty much, just like the house. I don't want a pole building. I don't want a barn. I want a house with vinyl siding that matches the house, the shingles, the same style. Everything will look nice. It will be a real asset to the community.

And the lot we're at, we're not in a housing development. So, you know, I understand ordinances and stuff like that and most of them are to protect neighborhoods and different things like this. We're, if you look at the picture and the lot, we got trees all the way around the lot. We can't see none of our neighbors. And we're, strictly, we're back from the road far enough, the side easements. Everything is within the zoning requirements whatsoever.

I didn't ask any of the neighbors for any kind of information. We've only lived there, what, a couple months. I've only met the one neighbor in the back and he told me yesterday he got a letter and he says he has no problem whatsoever with this.

So, you know, it did have, since it's got two lots, it's got an extra driveway on it that came back about 30 feet, so now I've got two driveways to the lot. So the second drive that was already there is going to go to the garage. We are going to put in, you know, a new driveway back to the garage and stuff like that so we have the extra parking and everything like that.

And, basically, look at the some of the information about the safety issues on this. I mean, my other driveway so small you couldn't get nothing in there to begin with. This gives us an extra drive if we've got to pull anybody in or anything like this. From a safety issue, it would really make guite a difference.

And I think it would be an asset to the community. And like I say, we are not in a housing development. We're on Route 86. We can't see none of our neighbors and we're so close to 2 acres. Basically, we're paying taxes on 2 acres of property. And I know on the zoning thing, if you got 2 acres, you're able to build up to 1,500 square feet. I don't want 1,500 square feet. I just want a nice little garage for two cars, a nice little work area so I can do my antiques and this kind of stuff.

So that's pretty much, you know, my presentation. I don't know if there is any questions. But like I say, we got, the area that we're in, we're not trying to, you know, circumvent any of the laws or any ordinance or stuff like that. We got a legitimate 2 acres that I am paying taxes on. And, basically, it's going to, just put this building on there, my taxes are going up anyway because the appraisal value of the house is going to go up. And so I didn't think it was too much of a problem. Hopefully, the Zoning Board will see at the time same way. So --

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. Thank you.

Does anyone have questions for Mr. Crews?

MR. DYNES: One question: It states to us that, when you build this, if it's approved, you are going to tear down the existing shed.

MR. CREWS: Oh, yeah. 1 2 MR. DYNES: Can you confirm that for us? MR. CREWS: That's one of other reasons. You know, 3 I am going to lose probably about over 100 square foot of shed 4 space right there. Where am I going to put all the tractors? 5 You know, it's got to go someplace. 6 MR. DYNES: That's all I have. 7 8 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Skip? 9 MR. SWEENEY: Mr. Crews -- Thanks. Mr. Crews, who owns the property behind you? 10 MR. CREWS: You know, all I know is it's Bill and 11 I don't even know their last name. Bill is the one I 12 13 talked to the other day. Like I say, I've only lived there two months, actually, so I don't know --14 15 MR. SWEENEY: Is there a house back there? MR. CREWS: Yeah. You can't hardly see it. 16 17 the way the property is set up. I don't know if you ever know the property. I mean, I got woods on one, woods, tree lines 18 19 on both sides. When the foliage comes out, I don't even know I have neighbors, so it's just totally private. 20 21 MR. SWEENEY: All right. So you've got a flag lot 22 behind you, right? 23 MR. CREWS: Yes. 24 MR. SWEENEY: And then you've got one, looks like 25 you have a flag lot next to you, too. 26 MR. CREWS: Two flags lots, one goes one way, one 27 goes -- One goes behind my house and one goes behind 28 somebody's property next to us there. MR. SWEENEY: Okay. Thank you. 29 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Blair, Chris, do you have any 30

questions for Mr. Crews? 1 MR. HAMILTON: I just have one curiosity to settle. 2 You don't have a detailed drawing of the building, what it's 3 going to look like, but you show the pitch on the roof here. MR. CREWS: Yeah. 5 MR. HAMILTON: And where this door is is actually 6 notched back. 7 8 MR. CREWS: Yeah. If you look at the prints on the 9 building, you've got a 20 by 20 foot garage and then you're going to have an apron that comes out. 10 MR. HAMILTON: So my curiosity is, is that pitched 11 roof going to cover that notched back area? 12 13 MR. CREWS: Well, the pitched roof is going to cover over the garage and you are going to have like a little area 14 15 there like concrete. MR. HAMILTON: That would be covered? 16 17 MR. CREWS: That will be covered. I got it. Okay. 18 MR. HAMILTON: 19 MR. CREWS: Yeah, it is going to be a solid roof all the way back, one solid roof. 20 21 MR. HAMILTON: Yeah, right. 22 MR. CREWS: And then you will just have that 20 foot 23 by 6 foot concrete slab that you can sit out with a chair or 24 something like that if you wish to. 25 MR. HAMILTON: Thank you. 26 MR. CREWS: Yeah, I tried to find pictures or, you 27 know, drawings of what I wanted to do but I couldn't really 28 find anything that really matches how I wanted to present it, so I did the best I could. 29 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. Well, we appreciate it. 30

Anyone? The board's good? 1 You can be seated. Just checking if there is anyone 2 else in the room that's here to speak for or against this 3 appeal? 5 (No response.) Heather, do we have anyone on the phone still? 6 MS. FREEMAN: There are a couple people on the 7 8 I don't know if they're here for this case. 9 MR. LONGIOTTI: Yeah. I am a neighbor, Longiotti. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. Have you been --10 MR. LONGIOTTI: Just a, just a question. 11 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Hold on. 12 13 MR. LONGIOTTI: I am on Rio Vista on the corner, so I am probably the closest to the house. 14 15 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Sir. MR. LONGIOTTI: This is just for a variance --16 17 MR. DYNES: Sir, just one second. We need -- Excuse We need to make sure you can be sworn in before you talk 18 19 to us and we find out, get your address. Okay? MR. LONGIOTTI: 20 Okay. 21 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: So please raise your right hand. 22 (Whereupon, Mr. Longiotti was sworn in.) CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. Now state your name and 23 24 address for the record. MR. LONGIOTTI: Name is Jay Douglas Longiotti. 25 26 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Address? What's your address, sir? 27 28 MR. LONGIOTTI: 6429 Rio Vista Drive, Concord Township 44077. 29 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. Go ahead, sir. 30

MR. LONGIOTTI: Just a question. So if he was, if 1 2 Mr. Martin was to build a 1,024 square foot building in the exact same space that he's planning to build this, he wouldn't 3 need a variance, correct? So this is just for 176 additional 4 5 square feet? CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Correct. 6 MR. LONGIOTTI: Okay. Yeah, if everything is, you 7 8 know, nothing's -- If he's not asking for a variance from the lot line or anything, that was my only question. I have no 9 10 There is nothing, there is nothing to dispute from my standpoint. 11 12 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay, great. Thank you, sir. 13 MR. LONGIOTTI: Thanks. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Is there anybody else on the 14 15 phone that's either for or against this appeal? (No response.) 16 17 Okay. If there's no further questions from the public, the hearing for Variance Number 2020-59 is now closed 18 19 to the public. Can I get a motion to approve Variance 20 2020-59? 21 MR. SWEENEY: So moved. 22 MR. DYNES: Second. 23 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Discussion from the board? Any 24 thoughts from anyone? Nothing? No, okay. MR. DYNES: I am in favor. The only thing, he's 25 26 provided testimony confirming he is going to remove the other 27 shed. That helps as well. So other than that, I don't have 28 anything. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. I don't have anything. 29 30 Okay, great.

MR. SWEENEY: I would just like to comment. If I'm 1 paying taxes on 2 acres, I want the full 2 acres. I have 2 nothing further. 3 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: So noted. All right. 5 question is on approval of Variance 2020-59. Mr. Martin Crews is requesting a variance from Section 15.03(A)(6), Table 6 15.03-1, to allow for construction of an accessory building to 7 8 be 1,200 square feet in lieu of the maximum 1,024 square feet permitted for lots less than 2 acres, for the property located 9 10 at 8485 Painesville Warren Road, current Parcel, current Permanent Parcel Number 08-A-011-0-00-023-0. Heather, please 11 call the vote. 12 13 MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Valentic? CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yes. 14 15 MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Hamilton? MR. HAMILTON: Yes. 16 17 MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Sweeney? MR. SWEENEY: Yes. 18 19 MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Dynes? MR. DYNES: Yes. 20 21 MS. FREEMAN: And Ms. Jarrell? 22 MS. JARRELL: Yes. 23 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. Congratulations. The 24 variance was approved. 25 MR. CREWS: Thank you. 26 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Back on track, all right. next is Variance Number 2020-60, Mr. Jeff Kanocz -- hopefully, 27 28 that's right. MR. KANOCZ: That's fine. 29 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. On behalf of the 30

property owner Collen Farrell, is requesting a variance from Section 15.03(A)(6), Table 15.03-1, to allow for a second accessory building on a lot less than 2 acres in size in lieu of the maximum one permitted for lots less than 2 acres for the property located at 6445 Tulip Way, current Permanent Parcel Number 08-A-015-E-01-010-0.

Good evening, sir.

MR. KANOCZ: Good evening.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: You've been -- State your name, your address, and confirm you've been sworn.

MR. KANOCZ: My name is Jeff Kanocz. I live at 6445 Tulip Way, the same address that the variance is on. I am requesting to add windows and --

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: You've been sworn in, sir?

MR. KANOCZ: Yes, sir. I am requesting to add

windows and doors to an existing 12 by 16 deck that has

already got a roof on it so I can use the building for more

than just the summer use. It's on a very unique piece of

property right on the creek with waterfalls in the back and a

beautiful view. And we're lucky we have such a nice piece of

property there and we'd like to -- I think it would increase

the value of the property.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: So this was just a deck before?

MR. KANOCZ: It was a deck, covered deck.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: A covered deck.

MR. KANOCZ: Covered deck with one, two, four, well, eight, about 12 posts. It's above the ground. It sits by itself with a roof on it and rails all the way around. I would just like to fill the holes in with windows.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay.

MS. JARRELL: So it's already done? 1 MR. KANOCZ: Yeah, well, 90 percent. 2 MS. JARRELL: How did you get caught? I am always 3 interested. 4 5 MR. SWEENEY: Drive by? MR. KANOCZ: It's a public meeting. I have -- Well, 6 I don't really think I should say. 7 8 MS. JARRELL: Okay. MR. SWEENEY: You don't have to. 9 MS. JARRELL: No, you don't have to. I am being 10 facetious. 11 MR. DYNES: There is no toilet in there. 12 13 no one sleeping in there. MR. KANOCZ: No, no, it's not living space. 14 not living space. We just want to enjoy our property. I am 15 retiring here or, actually, I am already retired because of 16 17 the COV-19 and I would like to have someplace where I can go because I am not going to be going too much farther than my 18 19 back yard, it kind of looks like, and enjoy it while we can. MS. JARRELL: So you have another accessory 20 21 building? 22 MR. KANOCZ: I do. 23 MS. JARRELL: How big is that? 24 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: So that one is 192 square feet. 25 MS. JARRELL: Okay. 26 MR. KANOCZ: Correct. 27 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: And then he's adding another one 28 that would be another 192 square feet. So it's not a square footage thing. That's what I was looking at. It's just the 29 two structures. 30

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MR. KANOCZ: It's going to make the whole back yard
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    look like a hundred percent better than just the deck standing
    there with the roof.
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               MS. JARRELL: Your neighbors have any problems with
    this?
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               MR. KANOCZ: I don't want to say.
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               MR. SWEENEY: Did they get noticed, Heather?
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8
               MR. KANOCZ: Yes, they did.
9
               MS. FREEMAN: All the adjacent property owners --
               MR. KANOCZ: Yes. They all did, yes.
10
               MS. FREEMAN: -- and across the street have been
11
    notified.
12
13
               MS. JARRELL: Okay.
               CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: And we didn't hear back from
14
    anybody?
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               MS. FREEMAN: I don't believe any public is on the
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    line right now but, no, I did not receive any comments prior
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    to the hearing as to this case.
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               CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yeah, okay. Anyone else have
    any questions?
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21
               Okay. You can being seated.
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               Anyone else here speaking for or against this
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    appeal?
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               MR. DYNES: I have one other question. I am sorry.
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    The other -- It sounds like you have another shed on your
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    building, right, or on your property?
               MR. KANOCZ: Yes.
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28
               MR. DYNES: Is it just a storage shed or what's
    the --
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               MR. KANOCZ: Yeah, a lawn mower shed.
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MR. DYNES: Okay, thanks. Sorry. I have done that a couple of times. I apologize.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: I am going to do it then. I have -- Can you come back up? I do have one more question.

MR. KANOCZ: All right.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: So I am trying to just figure out how we can make this work for you. So if we approve you, if we approve it, then what we're doing is allowing you to have two structures, right?

MR. KANOCZ: Correct.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: And with that, my question is, you know, in the future when you're gone or you sell the property and someone else comes in there or you change your mind, you're always going to be allowed to have two structures. You know, you are allowed to have two structures. But do you think you need more than the 400 square feet that you have out there because, right now, the two structures are --

MR. KANOCZ: I am not adding onto it, no.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: No.

MR. KANOCZ: No.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: So you're good with the 400 square feet?

MR. KANOCZ: No, that's it. Nothing is getting added on the back of it. It's going to be just the way it is right now. It is just going to have -- be enclosed so I can use it for, until November and start using it in March and about three months, nine months out of year instead of two months, three months.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yeah, okay. And I am not saying

we have to do this but would you be opposed to -- So he can 1 2 build up to 1,024 square feet in two buildings, right, but he only has 400? Am I understanding that correctly, Heather, for 3 the structures? MS. FREEMAN: If the variance is approved. 5 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yeah. If we were to approve 6 7 this and he is allowed to have two structures on his property, 8 is there -- My question is, if we approve two structures, can they each get up to 1,024 square feet or is it limited to 9 1,024 square feet because he's under the 2 acres? 10 MS. JARRELL: You mean if he wanted to add on to one 11 of them? 12 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yeah, if he wanted to add on. 13 am thinking, like, I know why he is here and I understand what 14 15 you are trying to do. I am just thinking in the future, should there be a limitation? And maybe we don't need one. 16 17 Maybe it just stops at 1,024 square feet. I just would think that, I don't know if we want to have two giant buildings out 18 19 there at some point in the future. MS. FREEMAN: Stephanie, are you back on the line? 20 21 Stephanie? 22 (No response.) 23 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Am I overthinking this? 24 MS. JARRELL: You're overthinking. 25 MR. SWEENEY: Yeah. 26 MR. DYNES: I think, if you want, you can simply --27 we could make the approval contingent upon no further, no 28 additions or anything else, remaining at the current square footage, to allow him just two accessory buildings. 29

MS. FREEMAN: Right. I was just going to --

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CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: If you guys think that's 1 2 warranted. I was just throwing that out there. MS. FREEMAN: That you, contingent that the second 3 building that you approve tonight doesn't exceed the 192 4 square feet, right? That's what he's asking for. 5 MS. JARRELL: Essentially. 6 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: If the board thinks it's worth 7 8 putting that condition on there. I don't want to be the --9 MR. HAMILTON: I think it is, just throwing my two cents. 10 MS. FREEMAN: Limit it? 11 MR. HAMILTON: A stipulation is warranted. 12 13 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Brandon or Skip? MR. SWEENEY: I don't know that we should go there 14 15 but --MS. JARRELL: Are we going to look into the future 16 17 of every variance request? I mean, it could get ridiculous, because that's my word of the night. I am sorry about that. 18 19 It is what it is. Well, I appreciate what you are saying. 20 MR. DYNES: 21 The idea is, if we're allowing this and he's confirmed to us 22 via testimony he's not going to add onto it, it's just simply 23 a stipulation, like we stipulated various approvals of things. Are they going to mound the yard? We will give you that 24 right-of -- We'll give you that easement but you've got to put 25 26 a mound up. So I understand what you are saying. You're simply saying that, okay, we'll allow it but then you can't 27 28 simply add 1,000 square feet onto the thing and then your neighbor's -- You're already in a riparian. You've already 29

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got a variance for that.

So if that's what you're suggesting in order to keep 1 2 it as it is, and he's provided testimony that's what he is going to do, I don't see it being an issue. I mean, we're not 3 overstepping our bounds. You are simply verifying what he's told you, if that's your intent. 5 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yeah. 6 MR. SWEENEY: Sounds like somebody is keeping an eye 7 8 on him, so I don't think he will get too far. MS. JARRELL: Yeah, that's for sure. 9 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: So I don't know. I am hearing 10 mixed, you know. Do you want to add that as a board? 11 Everyone feel comfortable? 12 13 MS. JARRELL: I mean, if that's what it is going to take to get it approved, you know. 14 15 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Brandon, do you feel strongly either way? 16 17 MR. DYNES: Mr. Chairman, if you make a motion, I would be more than happy to second your motion for that 18 19 variance with that condition attached to it. For further discussion amongst the board, if the board were all finding 20 21 that to be in their approval, I would likely agree. 22 MR. SWEENEY: Wrap it up. 23 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. So all right. So I will 24 entertain a motion for approval for Variance 2020-60. 25 MS. FREEMAN: Ivan, sorry. Is there any public 26 before you close? 27 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Is there anyone else on the 28 phone that would like to speak for or against this appeal? 29 (No response.) No, okay. So, again, I am going to add, Blair, you 30

thought we should add that restriction to the square footage. 1 2 MR. HAMILTON: I did, yes. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: That the current structure that 3 he's getting the variance for will maintain 192 square feet. 4 5 MR. HAMILTON: Correct, right. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: All right. So I will entertain 6 a motion for Variance Number 2020-60 requesting a variance 7 from Section 15.03(A)(6) and Table 15.03-1 to allow for a 8 second accessory building on a lot less than 2 acres in size 9 10 in lieu of the maximum one permitted for lots less than 2 acres for the property located at 6445 Tulip Way, with the 11 12 condition that the structure is not, does not increase in 13 square footage from the current 192 square feet. Can I get a 14 motion? 15 MR. DYNES: I move to take the variance 2020-60 as stated by Chairman Valentic. 16 MR. SWEENEY: Second. 17 MR. DYNES: With the -- I am sorry -- with the 18 19 condition attached thereto. 20 MR. SWEENEY: Second. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Second. Okay. All right. 21 Any 22 further discussion from the board? No. All right. 23 The next is on the approval of Variance Number 24 2020-60. Heather, please call the vote. MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Sweeney? 25 MR. SWEENEY: Yes. 26 27 MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Dynes? 28 MR. DYNES: Yes. MS. FREEMAN: Ms. Jarrell? 29 MS. JARRELL: Yes. 30

MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Hamilton? 1 MR. HAMILTON: 2 Yes. MS. FREEMAN: And Mr. Valentic? 3 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yes. Your variance has been approved. 5 MR. KANOCZ: Thank you. 6 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Thank you. 7 We're all set then? 8 MR. KANOCZ: CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: You're all set, sir. 9 10 MR. KANOCZ: Thank you. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Have a good evening. 11 All right. Next is Variance 2020-61, Mr. Richard 12 13 Sommers, of Lilly Farms LLC, is requesting a variance from 14 Section 15.04(A)(2)(d) and Section 15.04(B), Table 15.04-1, to 15 allow for an existing dwelling to be located 43 feet from the proposed Lilly Lane road right-of-way in lieu of the 50 feet 16 17 required for the property located at 12395 Winchell Road, current Permanent Parcel Number 08-A-002-0-00-008-0. 18 19 MR. DYNES: I need to briefly state, Mr. Chairman, that Mr. Sommers, I know, is a client of my firm and one of my 20 partners, Dale Markowitz, is not involved in this matter but 21 22 it's incumbent upon me to let everyone be aware of that. 23 if Mr. Sommers would rather I recuse my myself, or anybody 24 from the board or the public prefers I recuse myself from this, I am happy to do so. I would submit to all of you I can 25 26 be impartial in listening to this appeal, absent anybody 27 else's feelings otherwise. 28 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: I don't have any objection. MS. JARRELL: I don't have a problem. 29 30 MR. HAMILTON: No objection.

MR. SOMMERS: I have no issues.

MR. SWEENEY: No objection.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. Great.

MR. SOMMERS: Richard Sommers, 10585 Summerset Drive, Chardon, and I have been sworn.

CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Thank you, sir.

MR. SOMMERS: A brief history, we're the owner of a property located at 12395 Winchell Road. We purchased this property. It's approximately 30 acres. We have an approved plan for an RCD subdivision consisting of 24 lots and 4 lots on Winchell Road in the R-4 district. These plans have all been approved by Lake County Planning and the Concord Township. During the final review, plat review process, it was discovered that the house is not 50 feet from the new right-of-way as required under the Concord Township zoning code that was referenced above.

We're asking for a 3 foot variance on the front corner and a 7 foot variance on the rear corner. And this, I would note, is to the right-of-way line. This home would actually be 65 and 61 feet from the edge of pavement.

The basis of our variance, I believe we meet all the conditions as set forth in Duncan. It's an unnecessary hardship. It was not caused by anybody intentionally. It was, nobody knew about it. It was, everybody missed it, basically. We didn't have knowledge until March 20 -- 22, 2020. The problem can't be solved by any reasonable manner other than granting of this variance. There is no substantial detriment to the neighborhood as it doesn't affect any other houses. There is an open space in the RBG neighborhood behind the house. It will not affect, adversely affect the delivery

of any government services, which is another condition. 1 2 Again, it is not substantial and we don't feel it has any adverse effect on the neighboring properties. 3 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. Thank you. Any questions 5 from the board? MS. JARRELL: Very well done. You've been here a 6 few times. 7 Thank you. 8 MR. SOMMERS: 9 MS. JARRELL: Got it down to a science, practically. MR. SOMMERS: Unfortunately, we all missed it. 10 don't know how but we missed it. 11 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. 12 13 MR. SOMMERS: Thank you. CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: You may be seated. 14 Anyone on the phone? 15 MS. FREEMAN: No. 16 17 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Okay. Is there anyone on the phone that's either for or against this appeal that would like 18 19 to speak? (No response.) 20 21 Okay. If there is no further questions, the public 22 hearing for Variance 2020-61 is now closed to the public. 23 will entertain a motion to approve Variance Number 2020-61. 24 MS. JARRELL: So moved. MR. SWEENEY: Second. 25 26 CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Discussion from the board. 27 Anyone have anything? No? Okay. Next is to call the vote for Variance Number 28 2020-61. Mr. Sommers, of Lilly Farms LLC, is requesting a 29 30 variance from Section 15.04(A)(2)(D) and Section 15.04(B),

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Table 15.04-1 to allow for an existing building to be located
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    43 feet from the proposed Lilly Lane road right-of-way in lieu
    of the 50 feet required. Heather, please call the vote.
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               MS. FREEMAN: Ms. Jarrell?
               MS. JARRELL: Yes.
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               MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Hamilton?
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               MR. HAMILTON: Yes.
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               MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Valentic?
               CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Yes.
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               MS. FREEMAN: Mr. Dynes?
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               MR. DYNES: Yes.
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               MS. FREEMAN: And Mr. Sweeney?
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13
               MR. SWEENEY: Yes.
               CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Congratulations. It's been
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    approved. Thank you, sir.
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               Next on the agenda is the approval of minutes.
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    Chris.
               MS. JARRELL: I am abstaining.
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               CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Abstaining.
               MR. DYNES: Abstain.
20
               CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Abstain. So, Blair, the
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    question is on approval of minutes from March 11, 2020.
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    vote approves the minutes. Oh, sorry. Is there any changes
24
    or deletions to the minutes?
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               MR. HAMILTON: No.
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               CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Have you got anything?
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               MR. SWEENEY: No.
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               CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: Sorry. So then the approval of
    the minutes for March 11, 2020, a yes vote approves the
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    minutes, a no vote denies it. Please, all in favor of the
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minutes as written say "aye."
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                (Three aye votes, no nay votes, two abstentions.)
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               CHAIRMAN VALENTIC: The minutes have been approved.
               Okay. So our meeting, our next meeting is
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    June 10th. Hopefully, we will be here again. But the Concord
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    Township Board, May 2020 Board of Zoning Appeals is now
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    closed.
                (Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.)
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STATE OF OHIO 1 CERTIFICATE COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA I, Melinda A. Melton, Registered Professional 3 Reporter, a notary public within and for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that, to the best of my ability, the foregoing proceeding extension 5 reduced by me to stenotype shorthand, subsequently transcribed into typewritten manuscript; and that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of said 6 proceedings so taken as aforesaid. 7 I do further certify that this proceeding took 8 place at the time and place as specified in the foregoing caption and extension completed without adjournment. 9 I do further certify that I am not a friend, relative, or counsel for any party or otherwise interested 10 in the outcome of these proceedings. 11 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office this 4th day of June 2020. 12 13 14 15 16 Melinda A. Melton 17 Registered Professional Reporter Notary Public within and for the 18 State of Ohio 19 My Commission Expires: February 4, 2023 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30