

**OTISCO TOWNSHIP**  
*Preliminary Minutes*

**ZONING BOARD of APPEALS Meeting**

**MINUTES for December 11, 2023**

- Members Present:** John Feuerstein – Board Member, Laura Staats – Secretary, Glenn Geiger – Board Member; Larry Mercer – Zoning Administrator
- Call to Order:** John Feuerstein called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- Agenda:** Motion made to approve the agenda as written, made by Laura Staats,  
Seconded by Glenn Geiger  
Passed 3 - 0
- Approve Minutes:** Minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Glenn Geiger to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2023 meeting. Seconded by John Feuerstein.  
Passed 3 - 0
- Board Reports:** Zoning Report: Larry Mercer gave a short overview. See printed report.  
John Feuerstein reported that the Township Board will meet on Tuesday, December 12, 2023.  
Planning Commission: Land split on Gold Lake Rd – approved; Consumers Energy - application in for improvements at substation on Bricker Road, expanding the fenced in area, updating service buildings; Special Use for home construction on Hawley Highway.
- Old Business:** None
- Public Hearing Open** 7:05 Katelyn Thomas residing at 5840 Dumont Road Belding MI 48809 Parcel Number 34-130-022- 000- 060 - 01 is requesting relief from Zoning Ordinance section 1.670 - 1.670. “The zoning requirement cannot be met by an existing lot or the physical topography inhibits the lawful location of a structure or its accessories such as a garage shed etc.”  
Katelyn states there is a steep hill that starts directly behind her house that does not allow for construction of her proposed 20 by 30 pole barn or shed where she intends to store feed and other supplies for her animals. The construction will be built by a professional builder.  
Katelyn’s neighbors Tim and Karen O’Neill were also present at the hearing to support her and submitted a letter in favor of her being allowed to construct the pole barn on her property. They included a survey of their property to the north.
- Public Hearing Closed** 7:23
- Zoning Board of Appeals** Brief discussion by the Zoning Board of Appeals verified that all of the necessary setbacks from the road and property lines were being met.  
Motion by Glenn Geiger to grant variance that Katelyn Thomas is asking for, seconded by Laura Staats. Roll Call Vote: Glenn, Yes; John, Yes; Laura, Yes.  
Passed 3-0

**Public Comment:** Katelyn Thomas, “Thank you for granting the variance.”

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

**Member Comment:** None

**Meeting Dates:** Next scheduled mandatory meeting is January 8, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Otisco Township Hall.

**Next Proposed Agenda:** Review and approve the minutes from December 11, 2023.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Laura Staats and seconded by Glenn Geiger.  
Passed: 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

**Next Meeting:** Larry Mercer will send a notification and agenda for the next 7:00 pm Zoning Board of Appeals at the Otisco Township Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura J Staats, Secretary