

PERMIT NUMBER:

APPLICATION FOR ZONING APPEAL

Georgetown Charter Township
1515 Baldwin St, P.O. Box 769
Jenison, MI 49429
616-457-2340

revised: 1/26/09

APPLICANT INFORMATION

COMPANY NAME: River City Steamboat Company, LLC		PHONE: 616-706-5743
APPLICANT NAME: Gregory Boynton		
ADDRESS: 825 Taylor St	CITY / STATE / ZIP: Jenison, MI 49428	

PROPERTY INFORMATION

COMPANY NAME: River City Steamboat Company, LLC		PHONE: 616-706-5743
OWNER / AGENT NAME: Gregory Boynton		TITLE: LLC Member
ADDRESS: 825 Taylor St	CITY / STATE / ZIP: Jenison, MI 49428	
PARCEL NUMBER: 70-14-02-200-013	ZONING DISTRICT: RR	
EXISTING USE: Campground		

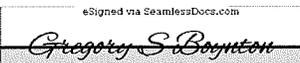
REQUEST INFORMATION

STATE THE NATURE OF THE APPEAL, INTERPRETATION OR VARIANCE REQUEST:
Request a variance of the set back requirements as relates to campsites set back requirements of 75ft. In this the adjacent property in question is the submerged bottoms lands of the Grand River, not attached to the request an exception to the 75ft set back rule for campsites for the affected shoreline along the north end of SECTION OF THE ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE REQUEST:
Sec 20.4 F 5 Each site shall be set back from any right-of-way or property line at least seventy five (75)

EIGHT (8) FOLDED COPIES OF A SITE PLAN ARE REQUIRED TO ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

I HEREBY ATTEST THAT THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, TRUE AND ACCURATE AND COPIES OF ALL MATERIALS SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD WILL ALSO BE SUBMITTED TO THE TOWNSHIP. I UNDERSTAND THAT I MAY BE REQUIRED TO BE SWORN IN TO GIVE TESTAMONY. I HEREBY GRANT PERMISSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEALS TO ENTER THE SUBJECT PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF GATHERING INFORMATION RELATED TO THIS REQUEST. IT IS THE APPLICANT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE IN ALL RESPECTS AND TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY INFORMATION TO THE TOWNSHIP FOR APPROVAL. COPIES OF THE ORDINANCE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE TOWNSHIP WEBSITE AT WWW.GEORGETOWN-MI.GOV. BY SIGNING, PERMISSION IS GRANTED FOR THE TOWNSHIP STAFF AND BOARD MEMBERS TO ENTER THE SUBJECT PROPERTY FOR PURPOSES OF GATHERING INFORMATION TO REVIEW THIS REQUEST. I ACKNOWLEDGE THERE ARE NO REFUNDS FOR ANY REASON.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE: 	DATE: 03-17-2025
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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE OF ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING: 5/28/25	DATE ADVERTISED: 5/13/25	DATE PROPERTY NOTICES WERE SENT: 5/13/25
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Sec. 28.11 of the Georgetown Charter Township Zoning Ordinance establishes the powers and duties of the Zoning Board of Appeals. All Variance requests must meet the specific standards listed in that section in order to be approved. In the space below or additional sheets, if needed, state how your request meets each of the approval standards.

Section 28.11 of the Zoning Ordinance states:

- (C) **Variations.** The Board of Appeals shall have the power to authorize, upon an appeal, specific variances from the requirements of this Ordinance, when the applicant demonstrates that ALL of the following conditions will be satisfied.

(Please describe, in detail, how your request meets each of the following standards.)

- (1) Granting the variance be in the public interest and will ensure that the spirit of this Ordinance shall be observed. *(Will the intentions of the ordinance be upheld and will there be no detrimental effects to the public if the variance is granted?)*

It is in the interest of the public that the Bend Area Master Plan be implemented regarding the use
_____campground on this parcel. The ordinance is not specific regarding submerged adjacent parcels but
_____seems contrary to the spirit of the ordinance and permitted use to require a campsite set back
_____open water.

- (2) Granting the variance shall not permit the establishment within a district of any use which is prohibited, nor shall any use variances be granted. *(Is the use to which the variance relates allowed in the zoning district where the site is located?)*

The use of a campground is a permitted use and the proposed variance will allow expansion of the
_____campground for which a similar variance to the same rule was previously granted.

- (3) That there are practical difficulties in complying with the standards of the Zoning Ordinance resulting from exceptional, extraordinary, or unique circumstances or conditions applying to the property in question, that do not generally apply to other property or uses in the vicinity in the same zoning district; and have not resulted from the adoption of this Ordinance. *(What unusual circumstances related to the property, that are different from other neighboring properties, necessitate the request?)*

The riverbank in this area is not sufficiently wide enough to accommodate both a service road, and
_____campsites, while including an additional 75ft setback from the river. The required set back is
_____to the permitted use. No other Township parcels along the river have detached submerged

adjacent to shoreline.

- (4) That the granting of such variance will not be of substantial detriment to adjacent properties or improvements in the vicinity; or, that the application of conditions to an approved variance will eliminate or sufficiently mitigate potential detrimental impacts. *(Present evidence that if the variance is granted, the adjacent properties will not suffer from detrimental effects.)*

The adjacent property in question is submerged bottomlands. It is hard to imagine a detrimental

this case. Uplands adjacent to the water are outside of the set back distance required by the

The Grand River waters in question are public in any case and cannot be built upon or filled in

this is no impact on potential improvements.

- (5) That granting such variance is necessary for the preservation of a substantial property right possessed by other properties in the vicinity in the same zoning district. *(What substantial property right are you denied under the current circumstances?)*

The Township has previously approved campsites at the water's edge for the original construction of

Steamboat Park Campground which is adjacent to the property in question (although they are now

combined parcel). A variance to this same ordinance requirement was granted as VAR1214 for that

original construction

- (6) That granting such variance will not cause any existing non-conforming use, structure, or condition to be increased or perpetuated, contrary to the provisions of Chapter 27 of this Ordinance, except in accordance with Section 27.12 *(Are there any circumstances on the property that are currently non-conforming? If so, will the non-conforming be increased or enlarged?)*

All existing uses on the property are conforming as per the 2014 review by the Township.

- (7) That the variance is not necessitated as a result of any action or inaction of the applicant.(revised 4-23-2001) *(Is this request necessary because of anything that has been done or not done by the applicant?)*

The request is not necessary because of an action or inaction of the applicant.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS REVIEW PROCESS

THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS IS A QUASI-JUDICIAL REVIEW BODY CHARGED WITH THE AUTHORITY TO HEAR AND DECIDE APPEALS FROM ANY ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION, INTERPRETATION OR REGULATION OF THE GEORGETOWN CHARTER TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE. THE PROCESS IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. A COMPLETE APPLICATION, ALONG WITH A FILING FEE, MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE TOWNSHIP ZONING ADMINISTRATOR AT LEAST FOUR WEEKS PRIOR TO THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING (FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH). SEE DEADLINE DATES ON THE WEBSITE.
2. EIGHT FOLDED (8) COPIES OF A SITE PLAN SHOULD ALSO BE INCLUDED WITH THE APPLICATION. THE PLAN SHOULD BE DRAWN TO SCALE (BASED ON A PROPERTY SURVEY) AND PROVIDE SUFFICIENT DETAIL TO ILLUSTRATE THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, BUILDINGS, STREETS AND OTHER FEATURES PERTINENT TO THE APPEAL. STRUCTURES LOCATED ON ADJOINING PROPERTIES SHOULD ALSO BE SHOWN TO DEPICT THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE PROPOSED TO ITS SURROUNDINGS AND THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON ADJACENT USES. FOR COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS, THE PLAN SHOULD BE PROFESSIONALLY PREPARED. FAILURE TO PROVIDE SUCH INFORMATION WITH THE APPLICATION MAY CAUSE THE REQUEST TO BE TABLED UNTIL AN ACCEPTABLE SITE PLAN IS SUBMITTED.
3. AT ITS NEXT REGULAR MEETING, THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE REQUEST. FOLLOWING DELIBERATIONS, THE ZONING BOARD MAY RENDER A DECISION OR TABLE THE REQUEST FOR FURTHER STUDY. THE BOARD MAY IMPOSE CONDITIONS AS PART OF ITS DECISION.
4. THE APPLICANT OR A DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE MUST BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING OR THE REQUEST WILL BE TABLED.
5. DECISIONS OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ARE FINAL. FURTHER APPEAL OF A BOARD DECISION IS PERMITTED ONLY THROUGH THE CIRCUIT COURT.
6. ANY VARIANCE THAT HAS BEEN GRANTED WILL EXPIRE ONE (1) YEAR AFTER THE DATE OF APPROVAL, UNLESS THE CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZED BY THE VARIANCE HAS COMMENCED.
7. NO REQUEST WHICH HAS BEEN DENIED BY THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MAY BE SUBMITTED FOR RECONSIDERATION FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR FOLLOWING THE BOARD'S ACTION, EXCEPT ON GROUNDS OF NEWLY DISCOVERED EVIDENCE OR PROOF OF CHANGED CONDITIONS.