APPLICATION FOR REGULATORY (DIMENSIONAL) VARIANCE CITY OF NEWPORT, RI

ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW

DATE: September 27, 2021

Board Members:

The undersigned hereby petition the Zoning Board of Review for a Special Use Permit and a Variance in the application of the provisions or regulations of the Zoning Ordinance affecting the following described premises in the manner and on the grounds hereinafter set forth.

Location of premises

Street & No.: 5 Sylvan Terrace

Tax Assessor's Plat 33 Lot 95

Petitioner Information

Applicant: Dennis Damien Rotunno, Trustee

Owner: Same

Lessee: N/A

Address: 52 Aspen Lane

Trumbull, CT 06611

Address: Same Address: N/A

Property Characteristics:

Dimensions of Lot: Frontage: 50'; Depth: 100'; Area: 4,990 SF ±

Zoning District in which premises is located: R-10

How long have you owned above premises? 2 Years

Are there buildings on the premises at present? Yes

Total square footage of the footprint of existing/approved buildings: 1,355 SF

Total square footage of the footprint of proposed buildings: 1,370 SF

Present use of premises: Single Family Dwelling

Proposed use of premises: Single Family Dwelling

All of the following information and questions must be filled in and answered completely: Give extent of proposed alterations:

Applicant seeks variances from the dimensional requirements to allow the installation of two A/C condensers, one of which will be located 6' from the east property line (10' Required), and which will increase lot coverage from 27.2% to 27.45% (20% allowed) applying to the property located at 5 Sylvan Terrace and identified as Lot 95 on Plat 33 in the R-10 Zone.

Zoning Characteristics Matrix

	Existing/Approved	Required/Allowed	Proposed
Lot Size (sq. ft.)	4,990 SF	10,000 SF	No Change
Lot Coverage (%)	27.2%	20%	27.45%
Dwelling Units	1	1	No Change
Parking	2	2	No Change
Front Setback	15.1'	15'	No Change
Side Setbacks House	13.1' & 3.7'	10'	No Change
Rear Setback House	35' ±	20'	No Change
Side Setback A/C Unit	N/A	10'	6'

What provisions of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan are applicable to this project?

LU - 1.4 & LU - 1.7.

What special conditions and circumstances exist which are peculiar to the land, structure or building involved and which are not applicable to other lands, structures or buildings in the same district?

With only 4,990 square feet, the lot is less than half the size required in the R-10 Zone. It is also only 50' wide. Given the location of the house on the property, with just a 3.7' setback on the eastern property line, it would be difficult to install the A/C System in a location that does not also encroach upon the setback, without placing it in the middle of the back yard. Moreover, the A/C System will be completely hidden from street view.

Explain how the literal interpretation of the provisions of this zoning code deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other property owners in the same district under the provisions of this zoning code?

If the A/C System were placed in a location that did not encroach upon any of the setbacks, the only viable location would be to place the System on the rear side of the house but directly in the middle. Such a location would negatively impact the outdoor living space and the aesthetic of the house. As a result, denial of the requested variances would deprive the Applicant of the ability to install an A/C System, which is a common amenity, in a location reasonable for the property.

Explain why this is the minimum variance that will make possible the reasonable use of the land, building or structure.

Due to the narrow width of the lot, there is no space to reasonably locate these necessary mechanicals outside of the proposed location. Further, the proposed location does not create a burden to the property directly to the east as the house itself is nearer the property line at all points than would be the A/C System.

The Zoning Board's Role

Special use permits shall be granted only where the zoning board of review finds that the proposed use or the proposed extension or alteration of an existing use is in accord with the public convenience and welfare, after taking into account, where appropriate:

- 1. The nature of the proposed site, including its size and shape and the proposed size, shape and arrangement of the structure;
- 2. The resulting traffic patterns and adequacy of proposed off-street parking and loading;
- 3. The nature of the surrounding area and the extent to which the proposed use or feature will be in harmony with the surrounding area;
- 4. The proximity of dwellings, churches, schools, public buildings and other places of public gathering;
- 5. The fire hazard resulting from the nature of the proposed buildings and uses and the proximity of existing buildings and uses;
- 6. All standards contained in this zoning code;
- 7. The comprehensive plan for the city.

The burden of proof in a special-use permit/variance application is on the applicant. This means that if the applicant fails to present adequate competent evidence to prove the applicable standard for issuing a special-use permit/variance has been met, the board must deny the application.

By signing below, I hereby attest that the information provided is accurate and truthful. I also attest that I have read the section entitled "The Zoning Board's Role".

Dennis Damien Rotunno,

By His Attorneys,

Peter Brent Regan, Esq.

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