

ADMINISTRATION AND PROCEDURES

11.1208 Board of Adjustment

a. Establishment

1. A Board of Adjustment is hereby established to provide relief in situations of hardship or to hear appeals as provided by this Section. The Board shall consist of five regular members, plus one additional alternate member who shall attend and vote only when one member is unable to attend for any reason.
2. Each member shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council for a three-year term and is removable for cause by the appointing authority upon written charges and after public hearings. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term of any member whose term becomes vacant. One member of the Board shall be appointed from the Planning Commission, and the loss of membership on the Commission by such member shall also result in his/her immediate loss of membership on the Board of Adjustment and the appointment of another Planning Commissioner to the Board.
3. The Board of Adjustment shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with these regulations and the laws of the State of Nebraska pursuant to Sections 19-901 to 19-914 of Nebraska State Statutes. Meetings shall be held at the call of the Chairman and at such other times as the Board may determine. Such chairman, or, in his absence, the acting chairman, may administer oaths and compel the attendance of witnesses. All meetings and records shall be open to the public. The Board shall keep minutes of its proceedings, showing the vote of each member upon each question, or, if absent or failing to vote, indicating such fact. The Board shall keep a record of its examinations and other official actions, all of which shall be immediately filed in the office of the Board and shall be a public record. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

b. Procedure for Appeals

1. Appeals shall be made to the Board of Adjustment through the office of the Zoning Administrator in written form as determined by the Zoning Administrator. The Board shall fix a reasonable time for the hearing of the appeal and shall decide the appeal within 30 days of the date of the public hearing. An appeal stays all proceedings in furtherance of the action, unless the Zoning Administrator certifies to the Board that by reason of the facts stated in the certificate, a stay would, in his/her opinion, cause imminent peril to life or property.
2. The Board shall provide a minimum of ten days notice of a public hearing on any question before it. Notice of the hearing shall be by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Waverly; by written notice to the appealing party, and may be posted in a conspicuous place on or near the property on which the application has been made.
3. Upon the public hearing, any party may appear in person or by agent or attorney. The concurring vote of four out of five members of such board as so composed shall be necessary to reverse any order, requirement, decision or determination of any administrative official, or to decide in favor of the appellant on any matter upon which it is required to pass under any zoning ordinance, or to effect any variation in such regulations.

11.1209 Powers and Duties of the Board Of Adjustment

The Board of Adjustment shall have only the following powers and duties:

- a. Administrative Review: To hear and decide appeals where it is alleged there is error in any order, requirement, decisions or determination made by the Zoning Administrator, or his/her

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designee in the enforcement of these regulations or any regulation relating to the location or soundness of structures

b. Interpretation of Zoning Map: To hear and decide, in accordance with the provisions of any zoning regulation, requests for interpretation of any map.

c. Variances to Relieve Hardships Relating to Property: To authorize, upon appeal, variances from the strict application of these regulations where by reason of exceptional narrowness, shallowness, or shape of a specific piece of property at the time of enactment of the zoning regulations; or by reason of exceptional topographic conditions or other extraordinary and exceptional situation or condition of such piece of property, such strict application would result in peculiar and exceptional practical difficulties to or exceptional and undue hardships upon the owner of such property.

1. Requirements for Grant of a Variance. No such variance shall be authorized by the Board unless it finds that:

- (a) Strict application of the zoning regulations will produce undue hardship.
- (b) Such hardship is not shared generally by other properties in the same zoning district and in the same vicinity.
- (c) The authorization of such variance will not be of substantial detriment to adjacent property and the character of the district will not be changed by the granting of the variance.
- (d) The granting of such variance is based upon reason of demonstrable and exceptional hardship as distinguished from variations for purposes of convenience, profit, or caprice.
- (e) The condition or situation of the property concerned is not of so general or recurring a nature as to make reasonably practicable a general regulation to be adopted as an amendment to these Zoning Regulations.
- (f) The granting of the variance will not cause substantial detriment to the public good and will not substantially impair the intent and purpose of any Ordinance or Resolution.

2. Findings by Board. The Board of Adjustment shall make findings that the requirements of Section 1209c(l) have been met by the applicant for a variance.

3. Conditions for Grant of Variance.

- (a) In granting any variance, the Board of Adjustment may prescribe appropriate conditions and safeguards in conformity with these regulations. Violation of such conditions and safeguards, when made a part of the terms under which the variance is granted, shall be deemed a violation of these regulations and punishable under Section 1214 of these regulations.
- (b) Under no circumstances shall the Board of Adjustment grant a variance to allow a use not permissible under the terms of these regulations in the district involved, or any use expressly or by implication prohibited by the terms of these regulations in said district.
- (c) No non-conforming use of neighboring lands, structures, or buildings in the same district and no permitted or non-conforming use of lands, structures, or buildings in other districts shall be considered grounds for the issuance of a variance.

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d. Board has Powers of Zoning Administrator on Appeals: Reversing Decisions of Zoning Administrator

In exercising the above mentioned powers, the Board of Adjustment may, so long as such action is in conformity with the terms of these regulations, reverse or affirm, wholly or partly, or may modify the order, requirement, decisions, or determination as ought to be made, and to that end shall have the powers of the Zoning Administrator from whom the appeal is taken.

The concurring vote of four members of the Board shall be necessary to reverse any order, requirements, decision, or determination of the administrative official, or to decide in favor of the applicant on any matter upon which it is required to pass under these regulations, or to effect any variation in the application of these regulations.

11.1210 Appeals from the Board of Adjustment.

Any person or persons, or any board, taxpayer, officer, department, board or bureau of the city aggrieved by any decision of the Board of Adjustment may seek review of such decision by the District Court for the County in the manner provided by the laws of the State and particularly by 19-912 R.R.S. 1943 (Reissue 1991), and amendments thereto.

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11.1211 Duties of Zoning Administrator, Board of Adjustment, City Council, and Courts on Matters of Appeal.

- a. It is the intent of these regulations that all questions of interpretation and enforcement shall be first presented to the Zoning Administrator, and that such questions shall be presented to the Board of Adjustment only on appeal from the decision of the Zoning Administrator, and that recourse from the decisions of Board of Adjustment shall be to the courts as provided by law.
- b. Under these regulations the City Council shall have only the duties (1) of considering and adopting or rejecting proposed amendments, or the repeal of these regulations as provided by law, (2) of establishing a schedule of fees and charges as stated in Section 12 of these regulations, and (3) of directing a city officer to appeal a decision of the Board of Adjustment.

11.1212 Severability Clause.

Should any section or provision of this resolution be declared by the courts to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the resolution as a whole, or any part thereof other than the part so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid.

11.1213 Complaints Regarding Violations.

Whenever a violation of this resolution occurs, or is allowed to have occurred, any person may file a written complaint. Such complaints stating fully the causes and basis thereof shall be filed with the Zoning Administrator. He/she shall record properly such complaint immediately, investigate, and take action thereon as provided by this resolution.

11.1214 Penalties for Violation. *(Amended by Ord. 07-03; 4-2-07)*

- a. Any person, firm, corporation violating any provision of the Zoning Regulations of the City of Waverly, Nebraska, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor. Misdemeanors are divided into three (3) classes, which are distinguished from one another by the following penalties, which are authorized upon conviction.

Class I misdemeanor	Maximum: Five hundred dollar (\$500) fine.
	Minimum: One hundred dollar (\$100) fine.

- b. The owner or tenant of any building, structure, premises, or part thereof, any architect, builder, contractor, agent, or other person who commits, participates in, assists in, or maintains such violation may each be found guilty of a separate offense and suffer the penalties herein provided.
- c. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the City from taking such other lawful action as is necessary to prevent or remedy any violation.