

SPECIAL MEETING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS FEBRUARY 6, 1992

The special meeting was called to order by chairperson Harold Scharrer at 7:31 p.m. to hear the appeal of the Masonic Lodge (case no. 92-1) in which they are appealing the code enforcement officer's ruling that they are a fraternal organization and wish to be classed as a social institution so they can locate in an A-1 or A-2 zone rather than in a B-2 zone.

Members present were Harold Scharrer, Carol Post, Joanne Strahm and Peggy Mahaney.

Donna Hartley was absent.

James Totten, manager, was also present.

Six residents were present.

The appeal request and William Wright's (county planning director) opinion were read.

Alan Hunter, representing the Masonic Lodge, explained its purpose and operation, stressing that it was a non-profit organization that existed on its dues only.

Comments were taken from members of the audience. The board discussed all issues raised.

Motion by Mahaney, supported by Scharrer that based on Section 1302 (12) (Birch Run Township Zoning Ordinance) and that the Birch Run Masonic Lodge is according to Michigan Statute specifically identified as a fraternal organization, that the Birch Run Township Board of Appeals accept the ruling of the code enforcement officers and deny the request of the Masonic Lodge. Motion carried. (3-1).

Motion to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. by Mahaney, supported by Strahm. Motion carried. (4-0)

Carol Post, secretary