

**BIRCH RUN TOWNSHIP SIGN BOARD OF APPEALS  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 27, 2015**

Chairman Richard Belger called the August Meeting of the Birch Run Township Sign Board of Appeals to order at 7:00 p.m. Also present for the board were Mike Musial, Vice-Chair; Kurt Kiessling, Secretary; Ed Magnus & Elaine Parlberg, Board Members. Approximately 3 people were in the audience.

**PASSED:** Motion by Magnus seconded by Kiessling to approve the August 27, 2015 Agenda as presented.

Approved:   yes  

Not Approved:       

**MEETING MINUTES:** No meeting minutes were discussed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** 7:03 p.m. to 7:03 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Opened at 7:05 pm and closed at 7:30 pm. Nick Boyko and Scott Dodge representing General RV are requesting a sign height variance from the permitted height of 14' to 50'. The sign is to be located on the General RV property adjacent to I-75.

**PASSED:** Motion by Magnus seconded by Parlberg to approve the height variance which would not adversely affect properties in the immediate vicinity of the proposed sign. This motion is based on the following findings of fact which the applicant has proved to demonstrate compliance with (a)-(b)-(c)-(d)-(e):

a. A variance is deemed in the public interest; and the height will create improved signage for motorists to locate the exit for specific services and the geographic location of the exit (Birch Run) will be placed on the sign.

b. The variance would not adversely affect properties in the immediate vicinity of the proposed sign; and the height will not block any current signage and will create tasteful sign that will improve the draw to the Birch Run exit for all businesses.

c. The alleged hardship or practical difficulties supporting the variance request results from conditions that do not generally exist throughout the Township, and denial of a variance would preclude all reasonable use of the property; and the height is necessary because I-75 frontage is quite unique in the Township and along with an increase to a 4 lane highway (since General RV started at this location) along with Blue Directional Signs that obscure the current signage for General RV.

d. Granting a variance would result in substantial justice being done, considering the public interests protected by the standards of this chapter, the individual hardships that would be suffered by denial of the variance and the rights of others throughout the Township whose property may be affected by granting the variance; and the height will offset the trees planted by MDOT as well as allow for increased visibility of the Birch Run exit due to improved signage.

e. The type of sign has been designed to make it compatible with the surrounding area; the height results in a tasteful well designed sign that complements current signage along I-75.

Approved:   Yes  

Not Approved:

**OTHER: Meeting scheduled for the Birch Run Township Sign Board of Appeals on September 3, 2015 at 5:00 pm to approve the August 27, 2015 minutes.**

**Adjournment: 8:08 pm**

**Kurt W. Kiessling  
Recording Secretary  
Approved: \_\_\_\_\_**