

Sec. 2-4-4 Board of Appeals.

- (a) **Establishment.** A Zoning Board of Appeals shall be appointed as specified in Sec. 62.23(7)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes. The Zoning Board of Appeals shall consist of five (5) members, and two (2) alternate members, appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the Common Council for a term of three (3) years. The members shall be compensated as determined by the Council and shall be removable by the Common Council for cause upon written charges and upon public hearing. The Mayor shall designate one of the members chairman.
- (b) **Powers.** The Zoning Board of Appeals shall have the following powers:
- (1) To hear and decide appeals where it is alleged there is an error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by an administrative official in the enforcement of the City's zoning or building code ordinances.
 - (2) To hear and decide special exceptions to the terms of City zoning and floodplain zoning or building code regulations upon which the Board of Appeals is required to pass.
 - (3) To authorize, upon appeal in specific cases, such variance from the terms of the City's zoning or building code regulations as will not be contrary to the public interest, where owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement will result in practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship, so that the spirit of the zoning code shall be observed, public safety and welfare secured and substantial justice done; provided, however, that no such action shall have the effect of establishing in any district a use or uses not permitted in such district.
 - (4) To permit the erection and use of a building or premises in any location subject to appropriate conditions and safeguards in harmony with the general purposes of the zoning code, for such purposes which are reasonably necessary for public convenience and welfare.
 - (5) The Zoning Board of Appeals may reverse or affirm wholly or in part or may modify any order, requirement, decision or determination as in its opinion ought to be made regarding the premises. The concurring vote of four (4) members of the Zoning Board of Appeals shall be necessary to reverse any order, requirement, decision or determination appealed from or to decide in favor of the applicant on any matter on which it is required to pass, or to effect any variation in the requirements of the City's zoning ordinances. The grounds of every such determination shall be stated and recorded. No order of the Zoning Board of Appeals granting a variance shall be valid for a period longer than six (6) months from the date of such order unless a zoning permit is obtained within such period and the erection or alteration of a building is started or the use is commenced within such period.
- (c) **Meetings and Rules.** All meetings of the Zoning Board of Appeals shall be held at the call of the chairman and at such other times as the Board may determine. All hearings conducted by the said Board shall be open to the public. The Zoning Board of Appeals 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, and shall keep records of its examination and other official actions, all of which shall be immediately filed in the office of the City Clerk-Treasurer and shall be a public record. The Board shall adopt its own rules of procedure not in conflict with this Section or with applicable Wisconsin Statutes.
- (d) **Offices.** The Common Council shall provide suitable meeting space for holding the Zoning Board of Appeals' hearings.
- (e) **Appropriations.** The Common Council shall appropriate funds to carry out the duties of the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Board shall have the authority to expend, under regular procedures, all sums appropriated to it for the purpose and activities authorized herein.