
Request for variance: Robert Parnell

2 messages

Shelley Boyd <sboyd77@comcast.net>
To: townofbridgeville@gmail.com

Fri, Jan 10, 2025 at 4:15 PM

1/9/2025
Shelley R BoydProperty address:
2 Elm Street
Bridgeville, DE 19933

Re: Request for variance from Robert Parnell, Bridgeville Laundry & Car Wash & Mini Storage, LLC.

I am unable to attend the Public Hearing Board of Adjustment meeting set for January 21. I would like to voice my concerns publicly for this meeting.

I have owned my property at 2 Elm Street for over 20 years. I used to love relaxing in my back yard. All that changed in November of 2019, when the development plan for the storage buildings began in my back yard. I went to the town meetings to see what was going to be built. I requested and received the plans that Heather Gilbert sent to then-town manager, Jesse Savage. I was assured that there was going to be a stormwater management area, 6' minimum fence with opaque screening or privacy slats, and a buffer. The email from Heather stated, "The other side of the fence will have a 3 foot maximum depth infiltration basin. This basin is designed to receive and retain any surface water from the site, and will remain dry except for the few days it may take to drain after a large rain event, as required. It will be finished with grass. In addition to that, there is a false berm along the inside of the fence to ensure drainage is diverted away from the residential properties in the off case where rainfall exceeds capacity. The surrounding grading would continue to carry the water southwesterly away from the Elm St properties. The gravel will be roughly 75 foot away from the rear of the properties. The buildings will be roughly 90 feet away from the rear property line. Lighting is affixed at a low height, downcast, and at the greatest distance achievable for minimized affect on residential properties. This is a very quiet, low traffic, relatively low lighted use for a commercially zoned parcel. "

Nothing has been done to this site other than the "pit" being dug. No fence. No grass.

After the "pit" was dug on the property, it has been nothing but a nuisance, in more ways than one. First, it is constantly full of stagnant water; daily, year round, which is a constant breeding ground for mosquitos. This "pit" has never been dry. Second, my yard now floods. It has never flooded prior to the "pit" that was dug. Thirdly, it has severely reduced my property value. No one wants to buy my house due to the eyesore that is there. I have made numerous phone calls, and sent several emails, to Bethany DeBussy. I was told by Bethany that the permits had expired for this project, and the owner was supposed to be fined. I had no choice but to pay to put a fence up to block this monstrosity, as well has several of my neighbors. Did I mention how much trash blows into the yards from the connivence store? It was a huge financial strain on me to put this fence up.

Now, to hear that that Robert Parnell is requesting a variance to not have to put the required 15 ft landscape buffer between the residential properties is absolutely ludacris. This "building project" has been nothing short of a nightmare for all who have the misfortune of living with this in their back yard. I bought my home in 2004, and loved living on quiet Elm Street. Now, I can't even sell it. I've had several people interested, but when they ask about what's going on in the back yard, I have to tell them I don't know. Sale lost. I have not gotten any answers from the Town of Bridgeville. Robert Parnell has not fulfilled any of the stipulations brought forth with the original building development. I am outraged that he has been allowed to get away with this for so long, and am utterly disappointed with the Town of Bridgeville for not enforcing the code violations. When will this stop? When do the "little people," like me, get justice? Rules are rules; Robert Parnell was required to do what was outlined in his proposal. He has not done that. This has been drug out for over 5 years. Now, he expects a variance? Unbelievable. Mr. Parnell, how would you like this monstrosity in your backyard? I'm betting if you had this view, you wouldn't be happy. I respectfully ask that the variance not be approved. I remember when the motto was, "If you lived here, you'd be home by now." I grew up here. I lived here. I own property here. I am disappointed in the mismanagement of this whole project. Let's do better, Bridgeville. Take responsibility, Mr. Parnell. Be a man of your word.

Shelley R. Boyd
Owner, 2 Elm Street

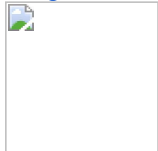
Bridgeville TownHall <townofbridgeville@gmail.com>
To: Shelley Boyd <sboyd77@comcast.net>

Fri, Jan 10, 2025 at 4:19 PM

Confirming receipt, this will be added to the meeting packet.

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Town of Bridgeville
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Bridgeville.delaware.gov**"If you lived here, you would be home now"**