



ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
ONE AVENUE A
TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376

NOTICE OF DECISION & VOTE

Applicant for Owner:

Edward Champagne
For Southworth Co.
36 Canal St., Turners Falls, MA 01376

Case No. 12-03

Date June 7, 2012

Premises Affected:

36 Canal Road
Turners Falls, MA 01376
Assessors' Map 3 Lot 2
F Co. Registry of Deeds: Bk 5051 Pg 264

Special Permit (X)
Variance Application (40A) (X)
Section 6 Ch. 40A - Finding ()
Site Plan Review ()

After a public hearing held on:

Wednesday, May 23, 2012

The Board of Appeals finds:

- Southworth manufacturing occupies a large multi-story building which covers the vast majority of a narrow steeply sloping lot immediately between and adjacent to the Power Canal, Connecticut River and two major bridges.
- There are numerous shipments and deliveries by out of town trucks unfamiliar with the location and the severe maneuvering constraints on the narrow lot and road between the two major bridges.
- Identification of Southworth Co. building location is limited and can only be confirmed from one of the three approaching directions.

The Board of Appeals concludes:

The increase in sign area is needed to remain proportional to the mass of the building.

The east and west signs are deemed to be in a "back to back" orientation.

There is no available space to place a freestanding sign. The south sign is allowed to be substituted for a free standing sign.

The shipping dock needs identification and the proposed sign is deemed to be directional.

The Southworth Co. lot is severely constrained by its narrowness, proximity to canal, river, bridges and road resulting in unique traffic constraints. Easy identification of its location is an important consideration in providing for the safety and convenience of Southworth bound trucks and the traffic in the vicinity. The proposed signage promotes public safety and convenience. It is in the public interest to grant this variance and Special Permit.

THE BOARD OF APPEALS VOTED:

To grant a Special Permit and variance to allow the placement of two additional building signs on the south and west side of the building so as to be visible from all approaching directions. The signs are to be of the same general size and character as exists now on the east side (43 sq. ft.). Also granted is approval to increase the “shipping” sign to approximately 12 sq. ft.

The vote of the Zoning Board of Appeals was as follows:

- 1. Ernest L. Brown, Chairman **YES** 2. John Burek, Vice-Chairman **YES**
- 3. John Reynolds **YES** 4. Robert Sojka **YES**
- 5. Ericka Almeida **YES**

Modification and Approval: Any changes proposed shall be reviewed by the Board of Appeals or its designee. The Chairman or designee may approve changes if in conformance with the intent of the Special Permit and variance or may refer it to the Board. Changes consistent with the purpose of this approval may be allowed by the Board without further hearings. Further hearings shall be at the discretion of the Board. Approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

IMPORTANT: Any appeal from the decision of the Town of Montague Zoning Board of Appeals can be made only to the Court and must be made pursuant to Section 17, Chapter 40A (MGL) as amended, and must be filed in the office of the Town Clerk within twenty (20) days after the date of filing of the decision with the Town Clerk.

Board of Appeals

By _____
Ernest L. Brown, Chairman

Karen Casey-Chretien, Clerk

Received for filing by Town Clerk: _____
Time Date

Twenty day appeal period ends: _____
Time Date

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT NO APPEAL HAS BEEN FILED WITHIN 20 DAYS FROM THE DATE THAT THIS DECISION WAS FILED WITH THE TOWN CLERK:

Montague Town Clerk

Date



Notice to be recorded by Landowner