**IN RE: PETITION FOR ADMIN. VARIANCE** \* BEFORE THE

(279 Montrose Avenue)

15<sup>th</sup> Election District \* OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE

7<sup>th</sup> Council District
Joseph M. Blaylock

\* HEARINGS FOR

Petitioner \* BALTIMORE COUNTY

\* CASE NO. 2019-0257-A

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

## **OPINION AND ORDER**

This matter comes before the Office of Administrative Hearings ("OAH") for Baltimore County for consideration of a Petition for Administrative Variance filed by the legal owner of the property, Joseph M. Blaylock ("Petitioner"). The Petitioner is requesting Variance relief pursuant to § 1B02.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("BCZR"), to permit a proposed addition attached to the rear of an existing dwelling with a side yard setback back of 4 feet and a rear yard setback of 22 feet in lieu of the required 10 and 30 feet respectively. The subject property and requested relief is more fully depicted on the site plan that was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

The Zoning Advisory Committee ("ZAC") comments were received and are made part of the record of this case. The property is located within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area ("CBCA") and is subject to Critical Area requirements as noted in the ZAC comment dated March 20, 2019 submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability ("DEPS").

The Petitioner having filed a Petition for Administrative Variance and the subject property having been posted on March 17, 2019, and there being no request for a public hearing, a decision shall be rendered based upon the documentation presented.

The Petitioner has filed the supporting affidavits as required by § 32-3-303 of the

Baltimore County Code ("BCC"). Based upon the information available, there is no evidence in

the file to indicate that the requested variance would adversely affect the health, safety or general

welfare of the public and should therefore be granted. In the opinion of the Administrative Law

Judge, the information, photographs, and affidavits submitted provide sufficient facts that

comply with the requirements of § 307.1 of the BCZR. Furthermore, strict compliance with the

BCZR would result in practical difficulty and/or unreasonable hardship upon the Petitioner.

Pursuant to the posting of the property and the provisions of both the BCC and the

BCZR, and for the reasons given above, the requested variance should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019, by the Administrative Law

Judge for Baltimore County, that the Petition for Variance seeking relief from § 1B02.3.C.1 of

the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("BCZR"), to permit a proposed addition attached to

the rear of an existing dwelling with a side yard setback back of 4 feet and a rear yard setback of

22 feet in lieu of the required 10 and 30 feet respectively, be and is hereby GRANTED.

The relief granted herein shall be subject to the following:

• Petitioner may apply for necessary permits and/or licenses upon receipt of this

Order. However, Petitioner is hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at his own risk until 30 days from the date hereof, during which time an appeal can be filed by any party. If for whatever reason this Order is reversed, Petitioner

would be required to return the subject property to its original condition.

• Petitioner must comply with the DEPS ZAC comment, dated March 20, 2019; a

copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Any appeal of this decision must be made within thirty (30) days of the date of this

Order.

Signed

JOHN E. BEVERUNGEN Administrative Law Judge for

**Baltimore County** 

JEB:dlw

2