INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING AN APPLICATION FOR A VARIANCE AND/OR A SPECIAL PERMIT

1. Please file a completed Zoning Board application prior to the deadline as stated on the meeting schedule. If you are unsure of the deadline, please contact the Secretary. If you are filing an application for a variance, you must file a building permit along with the variance application. Special permit applications and specific variance applications may require review by other town boards. These reviews will be coordinated through this office.

2. If you are filing the application on the owner(s) behalf, please have the owner sign the application or obtain a letter of authorization permitting you to act as their representative.

3. Submit 6 (six) copies of survey, site plan, building elevations and floor plans. The site plan and survey must indicate the exact setback dimension of the variance requested.

4. An application is not complete unless it includes a zoning table prepared by a design professional. The table must include existing and proposed site conditions as follows: lot area, setbacks, building and impervious surface coverage calculations.

5. Fees must be submitted at the time of the application. Checks are payable to the “Town of Bedford”. MasterCard, Visa and American Express are accepted. A transaction fee will be levied for all credit card transactions. The application fee is non-refundable.
   
   Residential Variance:   $350  Commercial Variance:   $550
   Special Permit:    $350

6. You will be provided with a public notice which outlines the variance(s) you are requesting. This public notice must be mailed by the owner(s) or their representative to all property owners within 500 feet of the perimeter of the subject parcel. Our office will provide you with a list of the 500-foot abutting owner information. The public notice must be sent by regular mail (certified mail is not required) at least 10 days prior to the scheduled date of the public hearing. Public notices must not be placed in mailboxes.

7. An Affidavit of Mailing must be completed and notarized subsequent to the mailing and returned to this office prior to the public hearing. You must attach to the Affidavit of Mailing the list of the property owners with their names and addresses, as well as section, block and lot number. If you fail to mail the notice as described, the public hearing will have to be cancelled.

8. The secretary of the Board will send a copy of the notice to the Record Review for publication. The publishing cost is included in the application fees.

9. Zoning Board members will individually visit the property prior to the scheduled public hearing.

10. Applicants and/or their representatives must attend the scheduled public hearing and must present the proposal to the Board and explain the need for the variance.

11. If approved, the applicant must coordinate with the Secretary to initiate the building permit process.