# AGENDA <br> THE NINTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS 2022 

VIA ZOOM
10:00 A.M.

THURSDAY
JUNE 9, 2022

## NEW BUSINESS

Next Meeting
To be determined.

## ADJOURNMENT

## CONFIRMATION OF AN APPLICATION FOR MINOR VARIANCE

May 11, 2022
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment
Attention: Jon Hindley
Pursuant to By-Law 30-2015, a consultation meeting was held on May 11, 2022 with Planning staff and the applicant.

An application for a minor variance, regarding 1025 Talbot Street, was filed on May 2, 2022 and the required fee under Section 69 of the Planning Act has been provided.

Please contact the Planning \& Building Services Department if you have any questions.

Regards,


Jim McCoomb, MCIP, RPP
Manager of Planning Services

LAND USE PLANNERS

April 29, 2022
sent via email
Mr. Jon Hindley, Corporate Administrative \& Accessibility Clerk
City of St. Thomas
545 Talbot Street
St. Thomas, ON
N5P 3V7
jhindley@stthomas.ca

## RE: $\quad$ Application for Minor Variance - Building Height 1025 Talbot Street <br> St. Thomas, ON <br> Our File: $\quad \mathrm{CCI} / \mathrm{STH} / 21-01$

Zelinka Priamo Ltd., on behalf of Canadian Commercial (T2) Inc. and Fast Forward Ventures Inc., is pleased to submit an application for Minor Variance relating to the above noted property (the "subject lands") for the purpose of seeking relief from the maximum building height regulation under the City of St. Thomas Zoning By-Law to permit a 3.1 m mechanical penthouse on the roof of a proposed 43.8 m tall building.

The subject lands are located in the middle portion of the former Timken lands and abut private roads to the east and south. A proposed 14 -storey building is to be located abutting the private road to the east. An application for Site Plan Approval (SPC 03-22) has already been submitted to the City and has received provisional approval. An application for Minor Variance seeking to permit a reduction in required parking spaces (File No. A08/22) was approved on April 28, 2022.

## THE PROPOSED MINOR VARIENCE

The proposed apartment building is a permitted use within the current "Mixed Use Development Zone (MU)" zone. While the top of the main roof is below the 45 m maximum building height, a 3.1 m mechanical penthouse is located on top of the roof of the apartment building, extending to a total elevation of 46.9 m . City staff have recently advised that there is no zoning provision providing an exemption for mechanical penthouses from the maximum height limit in the Zoning By-Law. Such an exemption is a common feature in most zoning by-laws.

Therefore, to permit the development of the proposed apartment building, the following variance to the current "Mixed Use Development Zone (MU)" zone under Zoning By-Law is required:

- Relief from Section 20.6.1 to exempt a mechanical penthouse from the maximum building height regulation.

To assess the merit of an application for Minor Variance, the four tests under Section 45 of the Planning Act are applied. An overview of the four tests is as follows:

## Does the variance meet the general intent of the Official Plan?

The subject lands are within the "Mixed Use Development" land use designation in the City of St. Thomas Official Plan. The intent of this land use designation is to encourage a mix of commercial, service, and residential land uses in a form that provides aesthetically pleasing streetscapes in a highly walkable environment. Section 5.15.3.7 provides that residential uses in the "Mixed Use Development" designation should "ensure the height, bulk and siting of the residential buildings is compatible with the site and adjacent residential areas there shall be a transition in dwelling unit density and building height from lower to higher densities and heights moving away from the adjacent residential lands."

The proposed 3.1 m mechanical penthouse is proposed to be located on the roof of the proposed 43.8 m apartment building. The mechanical penthouse is intended to shelter the building's elevator and other necessary mechanical equipment. While the mechanical penthouse may be visible from a distance away from the building, it will not be visible from the street and will have no impact on the compatibility of the proposed building and adjacent lands.

For the reasons above, the proposed variance is generally consistent with the purpose and intent the City of St. Thomas Official Plan.

## Does the variance meet the general intent of the Zoning By-Law?

The subject lands are zoned "Mixed Use Development Zone (MU)" in the City of St. Thomas Zoning By-Law, which permits a wide range of uses, including the proposed apartment building. The current $M U$ zone permits a maximum building height of 45 m for apartment buildings. The intent of the maximum building height regulation is to ensure compatibility with surrounding land uses. While most other municipalities in Ontario provide an exemption to the height limit for mechanical penthouses, the City of St. Thomas Zoning By-Law does not. It is unclear why such an exemption does not exist in the By-Law.

Only a small portion of the building is located above the 45 m height limit, which includes only the 3.1 m mechanical penthouse. Despite the proposed variance, the proposed development is consistent with all other regulations under the $M U$ zone to facilitate the development of the proposed apartment building, including a maximum building height of 43.8 m excluding the mechanical penthouse.

Given that the proposed mechanical penthouse will not be visible from the street near the building and will have no impact on the compatibility of the proposed building with adjacent lands, the proposed variance maintains the intent and purpose of the Zoning By-Law.

## Is the requested variance(s) minor in nature?

Given that only a small portion of the building is located above the 45 m height limit, specifically only the 3.1 m mechanical penthouse, and that no additional usable floor area is being sought, the proposed variance is minor in nature.

## Is the request desirable for the appropriate use of the land, building, or structure?

The proposed apartment building has been contemplated on the subject lands for some time and it was only recently advised by City staff that a height exemption for a mechanical penthouse is not provided in the Zoning By-Law. A mechanical penthouse is a required feature on any apartment building. The proposed variance reflects common practice without creating any undue negative impacts on surrounding lands. Given that the proposed variance is required to allow the City to give final Site Plan Approval for the proposed development, the proposed variance is desirable for the appropriate use of the subject lands.

## CONCLUSION

Given the above, it is our opinion that the proposed variances to exempt a mechanical penthouse from the maximum height regulation in the Zoning By-Law satisfies the four tests for Minor Variance under the Planning Act.

Please find the following digital materials submitted to support the application:

- The completed Minor Variance application form (including authorization); and,
- Elevations and floor plan denoting penthouse height.

The required application fee will be provided to City Hall separately.
We trust that the enclosed information is complete and satisfactory and look forward to a timely approval process. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact our office.

Yours very truly,

## ZELINKA PRIAMO LTD.



Mathew Campbell, BA, CPT
Senior Planner

## cc. Fast Forward Ventures Canadian Commercial Inc.

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## APPLICATION FOR MINOR VARIANCE OR FOR PERMISSION

(Section 45 of the Planning Act, RSO, 1990, as amended)


Application \#: A13/22
APPLICATION IS HEREBY MADE TO:
City of St. Thomas
545 Talbot Street
St. Thomas ON N5P 3V7
Tel: (519) 631-1680 ext 4125 Fax: (519) 633-9019
Email: ihindley@stthomas.ca
Please note that in accordance with By-Law 30-2015, consultation with the Planning and Building Services Department must take place prior to the submission of an application. After c onsultation, the appl ication will be filed $w$ ith the A ssistant S ecretary-Treasurer, together with the sketch referred to in Note 1 and $\$ 400$ made payable to the City of St. Thomas. A II information an $d m$ aterials $s u b m i t t e d$ for $t$ he a pplication $s$ hall be made availabie to the public, as indicated by Section 1.0.1 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990.

Personal information contained on this form is collected under the authority of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended, and Ontario Regulation 200/96 and will be used for the purpose of processing this application.

1. Name of Owner(s) Canadian Commercial (T2) Inc.

Address 484 Waterloo Street, London, ON
Postal Code N6B 2P6 Tel: 519-520-0945_e-mail:lee@canadiancommercial.ca
2. Name of Authorized Agent (if any) Zelinka Priamo Litd. c/o Matt Campbell

Address 318 Wellington Road, London, ON
Postal Code N6C 4P4 $\quad$ Tel: 519-474-7137 $\quad$ e-mail: matt.c@zpplan.com

Note: Please specify to whom all communications should be sent: Owner $\quad$ Agent $\square$
3. Nature and extent of relief from the Zoning By-law applied for:

Relief from Section Section 20.6.1 to exempt a mechanical penthouse from the maximum height regulation
4. Reason why the proposed use cannot comply with the provisions of the Zoning By-law:

See attached cover letter
5. Location of Land:

Concession No. 9
Lot(s) ${ }^{6}$
Registered Plan No. $\qquad$ Lot(s) $\qquad$
Reference Plan No. 11R-10793 Part(s) 3-6

Geographic/Former Township $\qquad$
Name of Street Talbot Street $\quad$ Street No. 1025
6. Dimensions of land affected:

Frontage See attached sile plan Depth $\qquad$
Area $\qquad$ Width of Street $\qquad$
7. Access to the subject land is by:
$\square$ a Regional Road
( $\sqrt{ }$ a private road

$\square$a Municipal road that is maintained all year
( $\sqrt{ }$ a Municipal road that is maintained seasonally
8. Particulars of all buildings and structures on or proposed for the subject land (Specify ground floor area, gross floor area, number of storeys, width, length, height). P lease specify use of existing structures.

Existing:
None
$\qquad$
USE $\qquad$
Proposed:
14-storey, 162 -unit apartment building
9. Location of all buildings and structures on or proposed for the subject land (Specify distance from side, rear and front lot lines). Please specify use of proposed structure.

Existing:
None
$\qquad$
Proposed:
See site plan

## USE

10. Date of acquisition of subject land: 2021
11. Date of construction of all buildings and structures on subject land: N/A
12. Existing uses of the subject land:

Vacant
13. Existing uses of abutting lands:

| North: Vacant | East: Commercial |
| :--- | :--- |
| South: Commercial (under construction) | West: Vacant |

14. Length of time the existing uses of the subject land have continued:

N/A
15. Services available (check appropriate space or spaces):

## Water:

( Municipally owned and operated Other (Specify) $\qquad$ piped water system

## Sewage Disposal:

$\square$ Municipally owned and operated
sanitary sewer system

Other (Specify) $\qquad$

## Storm Drainage

(7) Storm sewers
Other (Specify)
$\qquad$
16. Present Official Plan designation of the subject land:

Mixed Use
17. Present Zoning of the subject land:

Mixed Use (MU)
18. Has the owner previously applied for relief (minor variance) under Section 45 of the Act in respect of the subject property?


If the answer is yes, describe briefly (and if known, quote Application \#)
A08/22 - reduced parking requirement - Approved April 28, 2022
19. Is the subject property the subject of a current application for a consent under Section 53 or a plan of subdivision under Section 51 of the Planning Act, 1990?
yes $\square$ no $\square$ If so, state Application \# and status Consent previously approved

## APPLICANT DECLARATION

By making this application, permission is hereby granted to any Municipal staff members and Municipal Planning Consultant to enter upon the premises described in this application at a reasonable time for the purpose of inspecting the property in relation to the proposed application and for distributing information concoming the same. This information is being collected pursuant to the Planning Act, Municipal Act, and Freedom of Information Act. The information contained herein will be distributed to bodies and agencies prescribed by legislation and regulation and also to interested parties.

If this application is signed by an agent or solicitor on behalf of an applicant, the owner's written authorization must accompany the application (Appendix A). If the applicant is a corporation acting without an agent or solicitor, the application must be signed by an officer of the corporation and the corporation's seal (if any) must be affixed.

## MUNICIPAL FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Application information is collected under the authority of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, C.P. 13. In accordance with that Act, it is the policy of the City of St. Thomas to provide public access to all Planning Act applications and supporting documentation submitted to the City.

that the information contained in this application and any documentation, including reports, studies and drawings, provided in support of the application, by myself, my agents, consultants and solicitors, constitutes public information and will become part of the public record. As such, and in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, cM. 56, I hereby consent to the City of St. Thomas making this application and its supporting documentation available to the general public, including copying and disclosing the application and is supporting documentation to any third party upon their request.

Collection of Personal Information:
Personal information on this form is collected under the authority of Section 41 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990 and Sections 8 (1) and 10 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, and will be used to contact the owner, applicant and/or agent regarding the Committee of Adjustment Application. Questions about this collection should be directed to the City Clerk, 545 Talbot Street, St. Thomas, Ontario, N5P 2T9 (519) 631-1680.

## AFFIDAVIT OR SWORN DECLARATION

1. Matt Campbell ${ }^{\circ}$ $\square$ in the province of $\qquad$ ON name of applicant Agon City
make oath and say (or solemnly declare) that the information required under Schedule 1 of Ontario Regulation 545108 and provided by the applicant in this application is accurate, and that the information contained in the documents that accompany this application is accurate. Sworn (or declared) before me at the City of Landon on this $\frac{Z b^{k}}{\text { City }}$ day of $\frac{A p r l}{\text { Month }}, 2022$

City
Day
Month
Year


DAVD JOHN HANNAM, a Commissioner, te, Province of Ontario, tor Zelinka Primo Lid. Expires September 21, 2024.


If the applicant is not the owner of the subject lands, please complete the owner authorization concerning personal information as set out below.
I. Jeffery House am the owner of the subject lands, and I authorize

Zelinka Priamo Ltd. to act on our behalf as the agent for the submissions required for all matters relating to the subject lands, and to provide any of my personal information that will be included in this application or collected during the planning process.

April 292022
Date


## APPENDIX B - ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LEGAL AND PLANNING FEES

In addition to the application fees listed in this application package, please note that where the City requires assistance from its solicitors or other technical or professional consultants in the processing of this application, the applicant shall be responsible for reimbursing all fees incurred by the City.
*Please note, Appendix B must be completed by the owner, not the authorized agent.
I, Jeffery House , am the owner of the subject lands, and I understand that further fees may be incurred by the City throughout the planning process and that I am responsible for reimbursing all fees.
April 292022
Date


## NOTES:

1. Each copy of this application must be accompanied by a S ketch. The Sketch need not necessarily be to scale, but dimensions must be accurate, and showing the following:
(a) The boundaries and dimensions of the subject land;
(b) The location, size and type of all existing and proposed buildings and structures on the subject land, indicating the distance of the buildings or structures from the front yard lot line, rear yard lot line and the side yard lot lines;
(c) The approximate location of all natural and artificial features on the subject land and on land that is adjacent to the subject land that, in the opinion of the applicant, may affect the application. Examples include buildings, dr iveways, s wimming pools, roads, railways, drainage ditches, wells, septic tank and tile bed, and trees;
(d) The current uses on land that is adjacent to the subject land;
(e) The location, width and name of any roads within or abut ting the subject land, indicating $w$ hether it is an $u$ nopened road al lowance, a $p$ ublic $t$ raveled road, a private road or a right-of-way;
(f) If ac cess to the subject land is by water only, the location of the parking a nd docking facilities to be used;
(g) The l ocation and na ture of any restrictive covenant or eas ement a ffecting the subject land;
2. The C ommittee of A djustment may require t hat a pr eliminary dr awing be pr epared, signed and dated by an Ontario Land Surveyor.
3. If this application is signed by an agent or solicitor on behalf of an applicant, the owner's written authorization must accompany the application. If the applicant is a corporation acting without agent or solicitor, the application must be signed by an officer of the corporation and the corporation's seal (if any) must be affixed.

(3) ${ }^{\text {T: }}$ T: SW

(1) [2(2a) (4) (5) 6) (7) (8al9) 10

(B)











floor plan Legend




1025 Talbot Street, St.
1055 Talbot Street
TYPICAL FLOOR PLANS TOWER 1 - OPTION 2A
$\qquad$
(82) 10

$\frac{\text { GENERA NOTES }}{\text { Cind }}$









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| ARCHIECTS INC. |  | 25:5030 |

1025 Talbot Street, St.

|  | Report No.: COA13-2022 |
| :---: | :---: |
| the railway city | Applicant: Canadian Commercial (T2) Inc. |
| Members of the Committee of Adjustment | Report Date: May 18, 2022 <br> Meeting Date: June 9, 2022 |

Location: 1025 Talbot Street, Yarmouth, Concession 9, Part Lot 6, Registered Plan 11R-10756, Parts 1 - 5

Subject: Request for a minor variance pursuant to $45(1)$ of the Planning Act, R.S.O, as amended

Department: Planning and Building Services Department Prepared by: Steve Craig, Senior Planning Technician

Attachments: Location Plan

## Recommendation:

That: Report COA13-2022 be received.

## BACKGROUND:

The applicant is proposing to construct a 14-storey apartment building on the subject lands, the proposed variance is requested to accommodate a 3.1 m high mechanical penthouse on the roof of the building dedicated to mechanical and electronic equipment associated with the operation of the building.

## REQUESTED VARI ANCE:

i) To permit a 3.1 m high mechanical penthouse on the roof of a proposed 43.8 m high apartment building, whereas Subsection 20.6.1 of the City of St. Thomas Zoning By-law permits a maximum building height of 45 m for an apartment building.

## OFFI CI AL PLAN:

- The subject lands are in the Mixed Use Development


## Location Plan

 designation, as shown on Schedule "A" (Land Use Plan) to the Official Plan for the City of St. Thomas.

- Permitted uses of the Mixed Use Development designation include (5.15.3.1):
i) a wide range of commercial, office, institutional, medical/dental, personal care and other service commercial uses i.e. banks, restaurants, other services, etc.;
ii) hotel/motel uses;
iii) medium and high-density residential uses in single use form and/or mixed-use forms that are compatible with, and complementary to, surrounding uses;
iv) ground floor uses in mixed use residential buildings, such as retail, restaurants, entertainment, and personal service establishments, are encouraged subject to the needs identified in the City's Retail Market Study.
- Access will be controlled and designed to minimize the danger to vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Points of ingress and egress to Talbot Street will not be permitted and points of ingress and egress to First Avenue will be limited in number. Development shall implement where possible consolidated vehicular access/circulation points and safe pedestrian connections and access to the internal road system located on the Power Centre designation (5.15.3.9).
- Adequate vehicular parking and loading spaces shall be provided. There shall be only a limited amount of vehicular parking between the street and the first tier of buildings (5.15.3.10).


## ZONING BY-LAW:

- The subject lands are in the Mixed Use Development Zone (h1, h2, h3 MU), on Zoning Map 11 to the City of St. Thomas Zoning By-Law 50-88, as amended.
- Permitted residential uses include an apartment dwelling, multiple dwelling, and town house dwelling (20.1(ii)).
- No building or structure shall be erected or used for any purpose permitted by subsection 20.1 unless the following municipal services are available to service the building or structure and the land on which it is situate, a water supply system and a sanitary sewage system and a storm sewage system (20.3).
- Minimum Lot Area 1.2 hectares (20.4.2).
- Minimum Lot frontage 50m (20.4.3).
- No part of any building, driveway, parking or loading area shall be erected within 3 m of any lot line (20.4.4).
- The MU zone may consist of lots that are owned by one or more persons. Where the development of the land is approved under Section 41 of the Planning Act and, pursuant to a consent subsequently given under section 53 of the Planning Act or pursuant to an approval or exemption subsequently given under section 50 of the Condominium Act, any part of the land is conveyed or otherwise dealt with, the provisions of Section 20 and any other regulations of By-law 50-88 are hereby deemed to apply to the land as a whole and to any building or structure thereon in the same manner and to the same extent as if the consent, approval or exemption was not given, so long as the land and any building or structure thereon are used and continue to be used for the purpose for which the development was approved (20.4.5).
- Maximum height of buildings and structures, townhouses - five storeys, apartments - 45m, multiple dwelling 11 m and accessory buildings and structures - 4 m (20.6.1).
- Minimum landscaped area $25 \%$ (20.6.2).
- Minimum number of parking spaces 1.25 per dwelling unit (20.6.3).
- Residential densities (20.6.4):
i) Townhouses and multiple dwelling - 25 to 75 units per hectare.
ii) Apartments - 25 to 250 units per hectare.
- Residential development within the MU zone may be phased, with an overall minimum density of 25 units per hectare ( 200 units) required at build-out (20.6.4).
- Minimum dwelling unit floor area, bachelor - 28 sqm , one-bedroom - 42 sqm, two-bedroom 56 sqm , and threebedroom 70sqm (20.6.5).


## LEGISLATI VE FRAMEWORK FOR A MI NOR VARI ANCE:

In considering this application, the Committee must have regard to the following criteria and determine whether:

- The general intent and purpose of the Official Plan will be maintained;
- The general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-Law will be maintained;
- The variance is desirable for the appropriate development or use of the land, building or structure; and
- The variance is minor in nature.


## COMMENTS:

- Planning staff are in the process of preparing a housekeeping Zoning By-law amendment for Council's consideration to deal with several technical matters, including the introduction of a regulation to exempt mechanical penthouses and rooftop mechanical equipment from the height and storey provisions of the Zoning By-Law, notwithstanding this the timing for the proposed development is critical and as such the applicants have are requesting a minor variance to accommodate a mechanical penthouse on the roof of the building dedicated to mechanical and electronic equipment associated with the operation of the 14 -storey apartment building.
- The proposed 14-unit apartment building recently received conditional site plan approval from the City of St. Thomas Site Plan Committee.
- In Staff's opinion the proposed variance meets the general intent and purpose of the Official Plan, Zoning By-law, is minor in nature, and is desirable and appropriate for the use of the lands, thereby satisfying the four tests, as set out in Section 45 of the Planning Act. Therefore, staff recommend that application COA13-2022 be approved.
- Should the Committee of Adjustment approve Minor Variance Application COA13-2022, the decision should reflect that the Committee is approving a 3.1 m high mechanical penthouse on the roof of a 43.8 m high apartment building.

Respectfully submitted,


Senior Planning Technician

