



COUNTY OF AMHERST

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Business Friendliness Initiative: Ordinance 2018-0006 - Zoning Administrator, Variances, and Interpretations

Amherst County looks to cut variance and interpretation procedure times in half with newly passed ordinance. Ordinance 2018-0006 allows Amherst County's variance process, zoning verification and boundary line determinations to be more flexible in adherence to the County's Business Friendly Initiative. The ordinance allows the Zoning Administrator the ability to review and process administrative variance requests for a cost of \$50. This will allow citizens to go through a process that is much simpler and less bureaucratic. Administrative variances can typically take 5-6 weeks to be heard, Ordinance 2018-0006 allows staff to cut this procedure down to two to three weeks. Variances that are not considered through the administrative variance process can still be reviewed by the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). In addition, all decisions made by the Zoning Administrator can still be appealed to the BZA.

In addition to the administrative variance process, Ordinance 2018-0006 also directs the Zoning Administrator to develop a request form for zoning verifications and boundary line determinations for a set fee of \$50. Request forms will be made available to the public. The approved ordinance is a direct outcome of Amherst County's Business Friendly Initiative.

Additional information may be obtained from Tyler Creasy at stcreasy@countyofamherst.com or (434) 946-9400.