



Village of Kent City

Backyard Chickens Rules, Regulations & Application

P.O. Box 296, 200 S Main Street, Kent City, MI 49330 · Phone (616)678-7232 ·

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

CHAPTER 4
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 4.24 **KEEPING OF PETS AND OTHER SMALL ANIMALS AND FOWL**

- (a) Not more than (3) adult dogs and not more than (3) adult cats shall be kept or housed in any dwelling or dwelling unit or any lands in a residential zone.
- (b) No turkeys, ducks or geese shall be kept, housed or maintained on any lands in the Village; provided however that this provision shall not apply to birds or small fowl that are customarily kept in a cage inside a dwelling.
- (c) For the keeping of backyard chickens and installation of any backyard chicken enclosure, a registration and zoning application form must be submitted to the Village Zoning Administrator, which includes the property address, property parcel ID number, site plan, and a signed and dated acknowledgement of the terms of this section. Prior approval is required.
- (d) The keeping of backyard chickens is permitted as an accessory use if all the following conditions are met:
 - (1) The parcel of land is located within a residential zoning district and the principle use of the parcel is a single-family residential dwelling.
 - (2) Chickens may only be kept by an occupant of a dwelling unit located on the real property on which the chickens are kept.
 - (3) The parcel of land is not less than .2 acres (8712 square feet) in size.
 - (4) No more than (5) chickens may be kept on any parcel of land.
 - (5) Chickens that crow and roosters shall not be permitted.
 - (6) The outdoor butchering or slaughtering of chickens is prohibited.
 - (7) Chickens must be kept in and confined in a properly constructed coop or chicken house and shall not be allowed to roam the parcel or any public streets, land, alleys, vacant lots or other open or public places, or upon any third-party premises.
 - (8) Chickens shall be fed within the confines of the coop and feed must be in rodent and insect resistant and weather-proof containers.
 - (9) Litter must be regularly removed and properly disposed of in compliance with all local, state and federal regulations.
 - (10) The enclosed area where the chickens are kept shall be within the rear yard (as defined in the zoning ordinance), not within the main building or any attached accessory buildings, and shall be at least 20 feet from any dwelling and at least 10 feet from the property line.
 - (11) Materials used to construct the enclosed area shall exclude tarps, plastic, fabric, rubber, paper, cardboard, or other non-traditional building materials

- (e) Chicken coops shall be kept and maintained in a manner so as to minimize to the greatest extent possible any adverse impacts to the property on which they are kept, surrounding properties, and any other areas of the Village, including, without limitation, dust, dirt, noise, odor, vermin, the attraction of other birds or animals, the potential spread of infection, disease or contamination or other health or safety hazards or nuisance conditions. All chicken coops shall:
- (1) Be constructed and maintained in compliance with all applicable building code regulations;
 - (2) Be of sufficient size and design, and constructed of such material, so that it can be maintained in a clean, orderly and sanitary condition;
 - (3) Be kept, at all times, in a clean, orderly and sanitary condition, in good repair, and in compliance with all applicable health and safety laws and regulations;
 - (4) Be a maximum of 80 square feet in area and eight feet in height;
 - (5) Contain sufficient square footage to allow the chicken(s) housed within to move around freely, provide an interior height of at least six inches higher than the head of the chicken in the enclosure when the chicken is in the normal standing position. A run for chickens shall be of a length, width, and height to provide adequate space for an animal to exercise.
 - (6) Be enclosed on all sides and from above;
 - (7) Be screened from view from the street and neighboring properties with a sight-obscuring fence, wall or landscaping in such quantities to sufficiently prevent the sight of the area from the street or neighboring properties during all seasons.
- (f) The keeping of chickens shall follow all other Local, State and Federal regulations.
- (g) Pets and other animals shall not be kept, housed or maintained within any buildings or structures or upon any lands in such a manner or to such extent that there are serious adverse effects upon adjacent lands or other lands by reason of noise, objectionable odors, contagion, insects, or other objectionable effects.



Fee: \$30.00 Review Fee: _____ Check No. _____ Cash: _____
(eff. 7/2023)

Effective July 2023, failure to complete this form prior to property alteration will result in a \$75.00 fine.

ZONING PERMIT APPLICATION
(Print in ink or type answers)

Date: _____

Address of property: _____ Parcel Number: 41-01- _____
Zoning District: _____ (obtain from Zoning Administrator)

Existing use of property / structure (or part thereof): _____
Intended use of property / structure (or part thereof): _____
Request to build or alter: _____
Number of dwelling units (if any): _____
Approximate start date: _____

If a new dwelling, will the dwelling meet the minimum requirements of the Zoning Ordinance, Section 4.30 (a) – (m)?
_____ Yes _____ No (see copy provided)

Property owner: _____
Owner Address: _____ City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Cellular: _____ Fax: _____

Applicant: _____
Address: _____ City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Cellular: _____ Fax: _____

Builder / Contractor: _____
Address: _____ City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Cellular: _____ Fax: _____

Site Plan.
(It is strongly recommended that the site plan be based on a true copy of an accurate property survey.)

On an 8 1/2" x 11" piece of plain white paper, graph paper, or survey show the following:

- 1. Actual property lines, angles, and dimensions of the lot to be built upon or used.
- 2. Exact size and location of the lot of all existing and proposed structures and uses
- 3. Exact distance between existing structures and proposed structures
- 4. Location, width, and length of existing and proposed driveways and parking areas
- 5. Location of other existing and proposed improvements such as fencing, landscaping, exterior lighting, signs, etc.
(A Sign Permit Application is required for new signs.)

Complete reverse side

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Applicant Certification

Read prior to signing below.

By the signature attached hereto, I certify that the information provided within this application and accompanying documents is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate. I will comply with all of the requirements of the Village of Kent City Zoning Ordinance (as amended) and will pay all application fees and other expenses for the review of the application. Furthermore, I hereby authorize the Village to enter the property associated with this application for the purposes of conducting necessary site inspections.

Applicant Name (printed): _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

VILLAGE USE ONLY

Date complete application received: _____

Fees paid: _____

Approved: _____

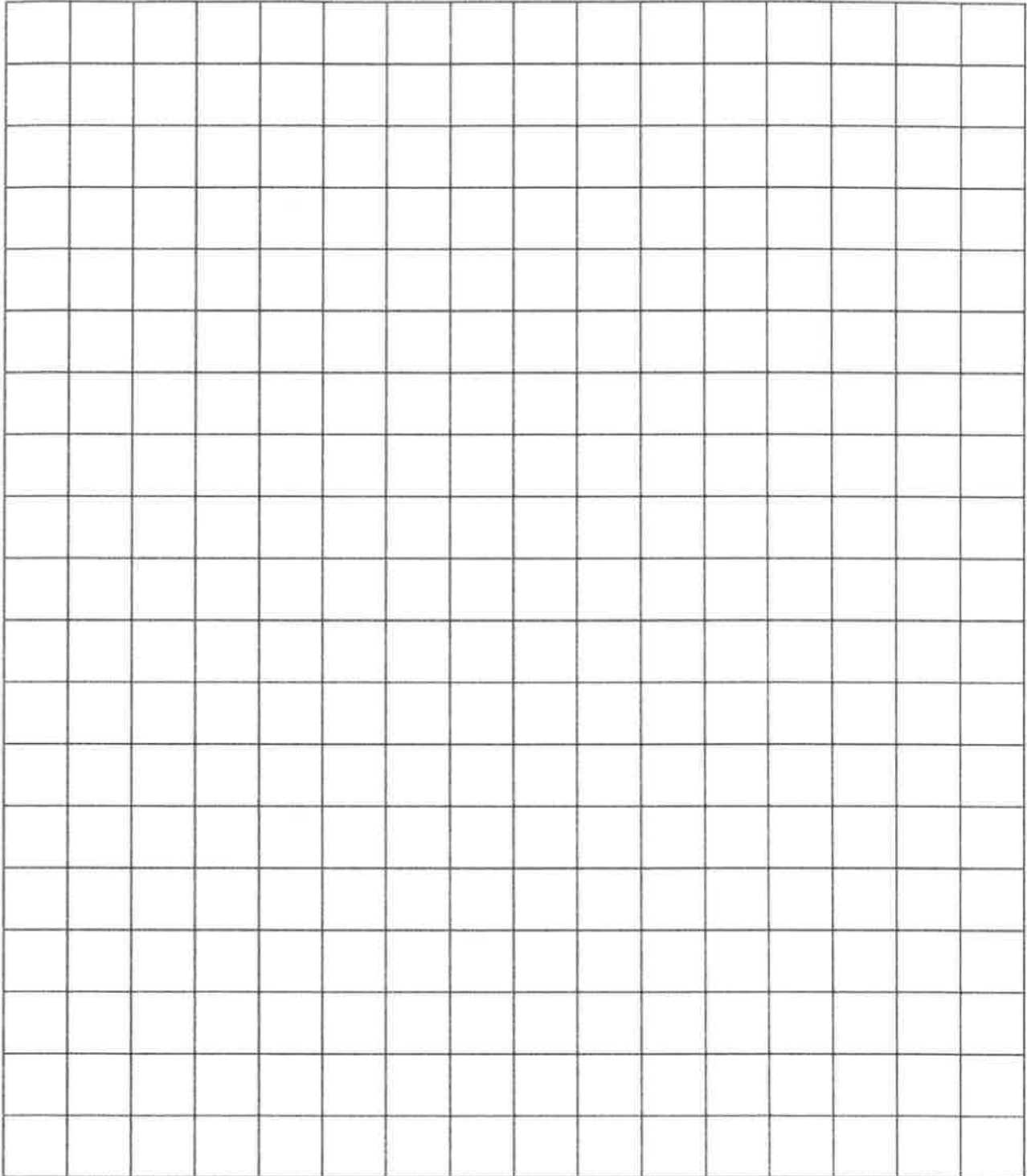
Denied: _____

Comments:

Zoning Administrator

Date

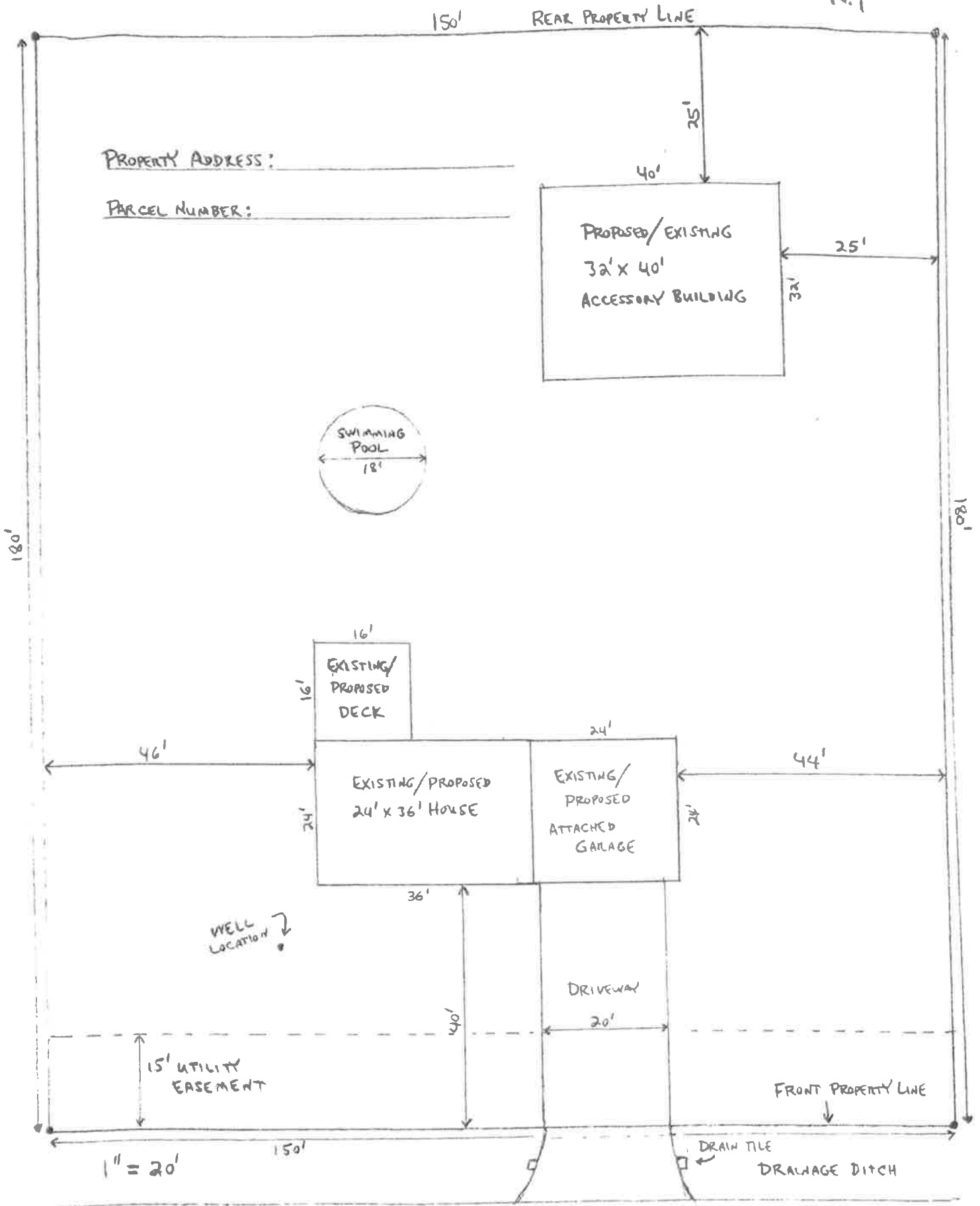
SITE PLAN



Indicate direction of North with an arrow in the circle.

One square equals _____ feet.

SAMPLE PLOT PLAN



1" = 20'

ROAD SURFACE - MAIN STREET