**VILLAGE OF RHINEBECK LOCAL LAW NO. OF THE YEAR 2024**

A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND THE ZONING CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF RHINEBECK TO CREATE THE BULKELEY SCHOOLHOUSE OVERLAY DISTRICT

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rhinebeck as follows:

**Section 1. Legislative Intent**

The Bulkeley Schoolhouse is located within the Residential District, which limits residential uses to one- and two-family dwellings. The Village intends to support the adaptive reuse of the former Bulkeley Schoolhouse, which is listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places and which has local significance as a former municipal school, through the creation of the Bulkeley Schoolhouse Overlay District. The intent of the local law is to provide flexibility in uses and dimensional regulations to facilitate and encourage the preservation and reuse of the historic structure. The law has the secondary benefit of providing for the creation of additional housing units to meet the increased demand for housing in the Village. Lastly, the adaptive reuse of an existing structure is consistent with the Village’s sustainability goals. This local law is adopted pursuant to the powers conferred upon the Board of Trustees by Section 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

**Section 2*.* An overlay districted entitled the “Bulkeley Schoolhouse Overlay District” is hereby created on the entirety of the 1.4 acre parcel known as 6 Mulberry Street, Dutchess County Tax Parcel Id 135001-6170-19-568209.**

**Section 3*.* Section 120-4 of the Code of the Village of Rhinebeck, entitled, “Establishment of Districts” is hereby amended to insert the Bulkeley Schoolhouse Overlay District (BSO) into the list of overlay districts in Subsection B.**

**Section 4. A new Article VIII.I, entitled “Bulkeley Schoolhouse Overlay District (BSO)” is hereby created to read as follows:**

§ 129-39.1. Bulkeley Schoolhouse Overlay District.

1. Purpose. The purpose of the Bulkeley Schoolhouse Overlay (BS-O) District is to provide flexibility in uses and dimensional regulations to facilitate and encourage the preservation and reuse of the historic structure and to provide for the creation of additional housing units to meet the increased demand for housing in the Village.
2. Permitted Uses. All principal and accessory uses permitted in the Residential District shall be permitted. In addition, the former Bulkeley Schoolhouse may be utilized as a multifamily dwelling through adaptive reuse subject to the provisions of this section.
3. Site Plan approval shall be required for all uses in the BS-O and for all exterior enlargements, demolition, new construction, or alterations of existing structures in accordance with Article XI of this chapter, except for maintenance and like-kind replacement. In addition to requiring compliance with the standards for Site Plan approval in Article XI of this chapter, the Planning Board shall ensure that the site plan for each new structure complies with the design standards in sections 120-26, 120-27, 120-39 and all other applicable provisions of the Village of Rhinebeck Zoning Code. In addition, the Planning Board shall require that all site plans comply with the following standards:
4. Screening. The site plan shall require vegetative and other screening to improve privacy and reduce visual intrusion between lots. In particular, the Bulkeley Schoolhouse driveway and parking lot shall be screened from neighboring lots to the maximum extent practicable, including the use of a 10-foot privacy planting strip, vegetative buffer, or privacy fence. Where privacy fencing is utilized at the Bulkeley Schoolhouse, the Planning Board may, at its discretion, permit such fencing, up to eight feet tall, notwithstanding the provisions of section 120-14 of this chapter. Landscaping and screening shall be consistent with the existing character of the neighborhood. The existing chain link fence along the frontage on South Street, Mulberry Street and E. Market Street shall be removed and the Planning Board may require such fence to be removed along the side and rear of the Bulkeley Schoolhouse where it finds that such removal and replacement with alternative fencing or vegetation would improve screening. The Planning Board may require a long-term maintenance plan for landscaping and vegetation for the Bulkeley Schoolhouse. The site plan shall also provide for screening of HVAC units at the Bulkeley Schoolhouse.
5. Lighting. The site plan shall avoid or minimize adverse impacts of illumination on neighboring lots to the maximum extent practicable and, shall comply with all other applicable lighting standards in this chapter.
6. Design. The site plans shall require that the design of all buildings, structures, and grounds, including architecture, layout, and landscaping, shall be consistent with the residential and historic character of the neighborhood.
7. Traffic. The site plan shall incorporate any practicable measures to avoid or minimize adverse impacts of traffic generated by new development on the safety of pedestrian, automobile, and bicycle transportation, if any.
8. Noise and other disturbances. The site plan shall require that noise associated with mechanicals located outside the structure comply with applicable standards in the Village Code and otherwise are minimized to avoid disturbance to neighboring properties to the maximum extent practicable. The Planning Board may require structures or measures to absorb, redirect or otherwise mitigate noise where necessary to achieve compliance with this standard.
9. Construction activities, the site plan shall incorporate any practicable measures, including but not limited to, hours during the day and days of the week when construction is permitted, for the purpose of avoiding or minimizing the adverse impacts of construction on the neighborhood. including without limitation noise, dust, and disruption and hazardous conditions for automobile, bicycle, and pedestrian travel, if any.
10. Bulkeley Schoolhouse Trash receptacles. Receptacles for the storage of trash and solid waste for disposal shall be kept inside the building except solely when such trash and/or solid waste is being removed from the property.
11. Front entrances. Each single or multi-family home in the district shall have a front entrance or porch facing the street where the home is located, to better connect such residences with the outside neighborhood and its character. For the Bulkeley Schoolhouse the Planning Board may waive or vary this requirement and instead require an outdoor sitting area disconnected with the building if clear and convincing evidence indicates that a front entrance or porch is impractical, would lead to substantial adverse impacts or is unnecessary for consistency with historic preservation.
12. Building orientation. Any home on a lot located on South or E. Market Street shall be oriented so that its front shall face South or E. Market Street, respectively, for consistency with the building orientations elsewhere in the HDO district. The Planning Board may waive this requirement if clear and convincing evidence indicates that such orientation is impractical, would lead to substantial adverse impacts or is unnecessary for consistency with historic preservation.
13. Shared driveways. The Planning Board may permit shared driveways to serve two or more lots where it would minimize disruption to sidewalks and street parking or substantially reduce the amount of impervious surfaces and/or loss of vegetation, and where it would not cause any substantial detriment to public safety or to the goals of the R or HDO districts.
14. Bulkeley Schoolhouse Amenities. To the extent practicable and consistent with the goals of this section, including HDO design considerations, the site plan shall include amenities for recreational or leisure activities on otherwise unused open space on the lot occupied by the schoolhouse adapted for reuse as a multifamily residence.
15. Bulkeley Schoolhouse Façade. In determining consistency with HDO standards, the Planning Board may require the Bulkeley Schoolhouse façade to be refurbished to retain historic elements and character of the building.
16. Bulkeley Schoolhouse Roof. The roof of the Bulkeley Schoolhouse shall not be used by building residents or third parties for recreational purposes.
17. Bulk Regulations.
18. Density. The maximum density within the BS-O shall be 31 bedrooms. The minimum density for any adaptive reuse of the Bulkeley School is 15 bedrooms.
19. Minimum Front yard setback – 10 feet
20. Maximum Front yard setback – 25 feet
21. Minimum Side yard setback – 10 feet
22. Minimum Rear yard setback – 10 feet
23. Minimum Frontage – 60 feet
24. Minimum Depth and Width – 60 feet
25. Off-street Parking – 1.25 cars per dwelling unit minimum
26. For multi-family dwellings:
27. At least two of the spaces shall be equipped with EV charging stations.
28. 1 bicycle parking space shall be provided per dwelling unit.
29. Maximum Lot Coverage Area – 30%
30. Maximum Building Height – 35 feet.
31. Permitted Obstructions. The following structures may penetrate the maximum building height of the Bulkeley Schoolhouse, as authorized by the Planning Board pursuant to site plan approval:
32. Parapet walls or railings around the perimeter of the roof, not to exceed four feet from the roof.
33. Chimneys or flues.
34. Elevator or stair bulkheads, not larger than 60 square feet in area.
35. Roof water tanks or other accessory mechanical equipment provided such equipment is located not less than 10 feet from the street wall of the building and all equipment is screened on all sides.
36. Additional roof thickness, up to eight inches, to accommodate additional insulation.
37. Skylights, clerestories, or other daylighting devices not to exceed four feet in height from the roof and shall be located at least eight feet from the street wall edge.
38. Solar energy systems, which should be invisible from the street due to blockage by the existing parapet and fully contained therein.
39. Vegetated roofs, not to exceed 3 feet, 6 inches in height, excluding vegetation.
40. Weirs, check dams, gutters, or other stormwater management equipment.
41. Rooftop structures to block, absorb, redirect, or otherwise mitigate the noise of mechanicals located on the roof or other outdoor location, or to visually screen rooftop structures or mechanicals.
42. Affordable Housing. Within the Bulkeley Schoolhouse, one affordable housing unit shall be provided.
43. An affordable housing unit is defined as a unit whose rental rate is affordable for households with an income at or below 60% of the Dutchess County area median income as defined annually by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). A rental unit is affordable when the annual housing cost of the unit, defined as rent plus any tenant paid utilities, does not exceed 30% of 60% of Dutchess County area median income, adjusted for family size.
44. The affordable unit may only be rented during the period of affordability to qualifying income-eligible households.
45. The affordable unit shall be marketed in accordance with the requirements, policies, and protocols established by local law or resolution of the Village Board.
46. The affordable housing unit shall be physically integrated into the building design and be accessible through the same primary entrance as the other units. The exterior finish of the affordable unit shall be indistinguishable from the other units, but the developer may provide less expensive interior finishes and appliances than the other units.
47. The minimum gross floor area of the affordable unit shall not be less than 70% of the average floor area of the other units.
48. The affordable housing unit shall remain affordable for a minimum of 50 years from the issuance of the initial certificate of occupancy.
49. The property shall be restricted using a mechanism such as a declaration of restrictive covenants in recordable form acceptable to the Village Attorney, which shall ensure that the affordable unit remain subject to affordable regulations for the minimum 50-year period of affordability. Among other provisions, the covenant shall require that unit be the primary residence of the household selected to occupy the unit. Such declaration shall be recorded with the Dutchess County Clerk prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy for the building.
50. Each lease for the affordable housing unit shall extend for no more than two years, and the landlord shall verify the tenant household’s continued income eligibility before lease renewal.
51. The Building Department shall monitor the compliance of the affordable housing unit with the provisions of this section.
52. Lighting
53. All exterior lighting shall be directed to aim away from adjacent structures, streets, and property lines and shall be dark-sky compliant.
54. Except for security lighting, all exterior lighting shall be placed on timers and motion activated. Security lighting shall be limited to areas associated with physical access to the residence.
55. Planning Board review of exterior lighting shall be required for site plan approval including the compliance of lighting fixtures with neighborhood character and HDO standards.
56. Additional Regulations
57. All provisions of Articles IV and VIII of this Chapter shall apply to the Bulkeley Schoolhouse Overlay District, except for any provisions of those Articles which are inconsistent with the provisions of this section.
58. In the event of conflict between the provisions of this section and any other section of the Zoning Law, the provisions in this Section shall prevail.

**Section 5*.* Severability**

The invalidity of any word, section, clause, paragraph, sentence, part of provision of this Local Law shall not affect the validity of any other part of this local law, which can be given effect without such part or parts.

**Section 6*.* Effective Date**

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State of New York as provided by law.