

Keweenaw County Planning Commission

Keweenaw County Courthouse

Public Hearing Minutes

July 27, 2010

Public Hearing was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call: Present -Jon Soper, Chairman; John Parsons, Member; Tom Hall, Member; Steve Siira, Member; Jim Huovinen, Member; Ned Huwatschek, Member; Joan Nelson, Zoning Administrator; Joe Langdon, County Commissioner. Absent: Rich Schaefer.

Guests: Barry Tippet, 969 Cedar, Allouez; Ken Manninen, 970 Cedar, Allouez; Marvin Manninen, 973 Bubbletown Road, Allouez; Paul Macomber, 121 Elm St., Allouez; Iris Johnson, 141 Elm St., Allouez; Roy Jarvela 191 Elm St., Allouez; Mike Moore, 1074 Bumbletown Road, Allouez; Shari Chase, Phoenix; and Renee Zirbes(Verizon Wireless) Minneapolis, Mn.

Chairman Soper began the Public Hearing with a Power Point presentation regarding the Verizon Wireless Application for Special Land use in Allouez Township to erect a 130 foot cellular communications tower on a leased parcel of land zoned RRB. The land is owned by Wisconsin Iron Company and is described as Lot 5-Assessors Plat of Bumbletown. The Verizon construction blue print met all county zoning regulations. Soper asked Zirbes to request a letter from the FAA to ensure the new tower would not interrupt FAA signals. Comments included the following: Commercial for profit development in RRB districts, destruction of trees at the building site, exterior lighting on the equipment building, drops in property values, tower being constructed too close to property lines, weaker telephone service, and interference with ham radio operations. Zirbes noted only a 75x75 foot area would be cleared and an access road installed. The cleared area would be fenced and no lights would be on the tower with minimum security lighting on the 26 foot x 11.5 foot equipment building. A separate T-1 fiber optic line would be installed to service the tower. Per the blue print, side clearances are in compliance. Motion/Huwatschek, support Hall, to close the public hearing. Motion carried.

Keweenaw County Planning Commission

Keweenaw County Courthouse

Meeting Minutes

July 27, 2010

The Regular Planning Commission meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by Chairman Soper.

Motion/Soper, support Hall to approve agenda. Motion carried.

Motion, Parsons, support Huwatscheck to approve the minutes of June 29, 2010 with additions to be made by Nelson in concert with the County Engineer, Gregg Patrick ,regarding property descriptions in his letter of 5/17/10. Motion carried.

New Business:

Motion/Soper, support/Parsons, to accept the Verizon construction proposal on Bumbletown Hill and to recommend the County Commissioners approve the Verizon construction plan. Motion carried.

Chairman Soper requested a Planning Commission work session for zoning ordinance updates to be scheduled for Monday, August 16, 2010, 9am-12am. Motion/Parsons, support/Hall, to schedule the work session. Motion carried.

Motion/Langdon, support/Hall, to have Ms. Nelson interface with Gregg Patrick (County Engineer) to clarify rezoning requests for all properties owned by the Keweenaw County Road Commission. Motion carried.

Motion/ Langdon, support Hall, to invite Gregg Patrick to the Planning Commission work session on August 16, 2010. Motion carried.

Motion/ Huwatschek, support Siira, to review Mohawk's main street, Stanton Avenue, at the

work session, to review zoning situations. Motion carried.

Motion/ Huovinen, support/Soper, to recommend to the County Commissioners the appointment of Steve Siira as the Planning Commission representative to the Regional Conservation District. Motion carried.

Motion/Parsons, support Siira, that the Planning Commission support the remediation project planned by Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region to improve the Hill Creek fishery. Motion carried.

Zoning Administrator's Report:

Ms. Nelson reported the number of building permits in 2010 is approaching thirty. Verizon will pursue another tower site in either Grant or Eagle Harbor Townships. Subsequent to a site visit in Bumbletown, a letter was sent to property owners regarding zoning violations.

Public comments: None.

Motion/ Soper, support Langdon, to adjourn at 8: 18 pm. Motion carried. Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, August 31, 2010, 6:30 pm, Keweenaw County Courthouse. Work session: Monday, August 16, 2010, 9 am-12am, Keweenaw County Courthouse.

Respectfully submitted:

Jim Huovinen