

MINUTES

of the

MECKLENBURG COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

August 25, 2022

Present: Kyle Crump, Charles Reamy, Jerome Watson, Jarrious Lassiter, James Puryear, David Brankley, Landon Hayes, Jr., and Randy Crocker.

Members Absent: Donna Dennis, Mark Warren,

Chairman Crump called the meeting to order.

A public hearing was held on the application by Network Towers II, LLC, for Comprehensive Plan review by the Mecklenburg County Planning Commission pursuant to Virginia Code 15.2-2232 of its proposed 199-foot communication tower and a 50-foot by 50-foot fenced compound. The property is located at its intersection of Hwy 903 and Hwy 612 (Morristown Rd) in the Bracey area.

Mr. Fletcher, land- use manager with Network Towers II, LLC, was present to answer questions. Mr. Fletcher presented a power point presentation on the project. Mr. Fletcher advised the planning commission that the company was seeking approval to install a 199-foot communication tower. Mr. Fletcher explained to the commission that the application was in compliance with the Mecklenburg County Comprehensive Plan.

Mrs. Linda Weingarten, with 911 community task force, was in support of the application. Mrs. Weingarten advised the commission that many residents have switched to cellphones and there are not enough towers in the area to support the calls. Mrs. Weingarten stated that the installation of this tower would help with the 911 calls being directed to the correct 911 call centers.

Mrs. Linda Shelton advised the commission that she did not support the application. Mrs. Shelton advised the board that the cell tower would be located 622 feet from her home. Mrs. Shelton was concerned that placing the tower at that location, would have an effect on property values in the area, and she felt that the applicant could find a better location for the tower.

Mr. John Fields advised the commission that he did not support the application. Mr. Fields stated that it's not, that the lake community does not want the tower, but it's the feeling that there would be better locations for the tower within the area. Mr. Fields stated that he did not want to look at the tower.

Mr. Wally Sayko advised the commission that he did not support the application. Mr. Sayko stated that he did not disagree with Mrs. Shelton's presentation about the cell tower. Mr. Sayko

stated that the area did need better coverage, but he felt that there was a better location in the area for the tower. Mr. Sayko stated that he would like to see the area remain as a rural community.

Mr. Doug Cloud advised the commission that he did not support the application. Mr. Cloud advised that cell towers are known to fall and he felt there was a better location in the area for the cell tower.

Mr. Hendrick advised the planning commission that he had received five (5) letters against the applications and five (5) letters in support of the applications.

The public hearing was closed.

Upon a motion from Mr. Hayes, to defer the application until next planning commission meeting to allow members the opportunity to visit the site, seconded by Mr. Crocker, and on a vote of five (5) to three (3), with Mr. Reamy, Mr. Puryear, Mr. Crump voted nay and Mr. Hayes, Mr. Lassiter, Mr. Watson, Mr. Crocker and Mr. Brankley voting aye, the motion carried.

Upon a motion from Mr. Reamy, seconded by Mr. Lassiter, the planning commission unanimously approved the July 28, 2022, planning commission minutes.

Mr. Hendrick discussed the resolution that was adopted by the Board of Supervisors at their July 11, 2022, meeting pertaining to solar facilities. Mr. Hendrick explain to the commission that the board suggested that no solar facilities should be located within a five (5) mile radius from the intersection of Highway 47, and Highway 92, within the town limits of Chase City, and this should be added into the Comprehensive Plan.

Upon a motion from Mr. Brankley, seconded by Mr. Crocker, the commission unanimously approved to hold a public hearing to amend the Mecklenburg Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Hendrick presented the Zoning and Building permit reports for review.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles P. Reamy
Secretary