

CITY OF PRINEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING BRIEF

Tuesday, January 20th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

The complete minutes are available by digital recording

Commission Members Present: Marty Bailey, Seth Crawford, Linda Chadwick, Will Van Vactor, Deb Harper

Commission Members Not Present: Al Baensch

Staff Present: Scott Edelman, Josh Smith

Provided Testimony: Grover Palin, Don Larson

CALL TO ORDER:

Joshua Smith called the meeting to order to elect a new Chairman, Vice Chairman and Second Vice Chairman. The vote was done by secret nomination, the person with the most nominations was voted on. The Commission re-elected Marty Bailey as Chairman, Seth Crawford as Vice Chairman and Will Van Vactor as Second Vice Chair.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Marty Bailey resumed his position as chairman and continued with the public hearing

A. Cu-2008-303, request for placement of a 30 ft. wireless telecommunication facility with enclosure; 31 ft. from the edge of rimrock above Crestview.

Staff: Provided a brief summary of the issue explaining the 200' setback within the County's ordinance and the City's reference to it in our Comprehensive Plan. However the City does not have its own ordinance, therefore the Commission shall take the setback into account and decide whether this proposal should be outright denied or if it can meet the intent of the scenic setback with conditions.

Applicant: Don Larson represented the company wanting the cellular site. He explained the site and reasons for the location as follow:

- Availability of utilities
- Ability to provide for the City and the Hwy with one site
- Clustering next to existing projections
- Smaller tower close to the rim versus large tower with lights 200' back
- AT&T needs something up and running to continue service due to discontinuance of previous agreements with other carriers (RCC)
- Described landscape plan and volunteered changes to meet Commission needs

The applicant also agreed to Toll the 120 day clock should the hearing be continued to a date certain.

Public Testimony:

Grover Palin: Spoke against the application; he does not believe the City has the right to make an exception to the County's Ordinance. He cited the fact that the City did not allow him to build his house on the rimrock and instead paid off his Measure 37 claim. He believes the City and County have a double standard when it comes to public property because he was originally confronted with the T-Mobile site that ended up on County land.

Commission & Staff Discussion:

The Commission asked several questions as follows:

- Possibility of alternative locations off the rim
- Number of customers affected
- The height needed for a tower if set outside the setback/lighting required
- Viability of landscape plan

After the majority of the discussion the focus was directed at whether this is truly the best location and whether a small tower closer to the rim would protect the scenic value better than something taller behind the 200' setback.

The Commission agreed that more information was needed as follows:

- Alternative locations and their coverage to ensure this is the best site (possible sites to the North or East)
- A visual of how high a tower would need to be if it were placed outside the 200' setback
- Two tower concept with one serving the Hwy and one serving town
- What the coverage looks like when AT&T is dropped from the RCC agreement
- Explanation of why a Quad Band antenna will not work

Motion: Will Van Vactor made a motion to continue the hearing to February 17th and have the information above submitted by the 12th of February. Linda Chadwick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

A. None

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. None

PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

A. New Planning Commissioner Interviews and recommendation.

- Applicant Don Wood briefly spoke about his continued interest in once again being a member of the Planning Commission. No questions were asked.
- Applicant Deidra Gardner spoke about her background; where she grew up, went to school and how she ended up in Prineville. General questions were asked about her reasons for moving to Prineville and her ideas of how the City should grow.

Commission: The Commission discussed the two options and admitted it was a tough choice, but in the end felt experience was best due to the recent turnover in the Commission.

Motion: Linda Chadwick made a motion to recommend Don Wood. Deb Harper Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned: