

PICKENS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES

of

July 11th, 2016

6:30pm

**PICKENS COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
Main Conference Room**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bill Cato
Dennis Reinert
Jo Johnston
Bobby Ballentine
Bob Young

STAFF PRESENT:

Ray Holliday, County Planner
Chris Brink, Community Development Director

Election of Officers

Mr. Cato called for the election of officers and opened the floor for nominations.

Mr. Reinert made a motion that the election of officers be postponed until such time that each County Council district is represented on the Commission; that there will be three vacancies after this meeting with two Council Districts not represented.

Ms. Johnston seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Welcome and Call to Order

Mr. Cato called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Mr. Cato asked those in attendance to join in a moment of silence and for the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Cato asked each of the members to introduce themselves and identify which County Council district they represent.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Cato called for a motion regarding the minutes of the May 9th, 2016 meeting. Mr. Ballentine motioned to approve the minutes as written. Ms. Johnston seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

Mr. Cato called for public comments on any item that is not on tonight's agenda. No members of the public wished to provide comments.

Public Hearings

Mr. Cato opened the public hearing portion of the meeting and called for the first case to be heard.

**1. LU-16-003 Proposed 180' monopole telecommunications tower land use request for Beacon Towers, LLC. Located at 851 Slickum Rd, Easley.
Tax Map# 5140-01-07-8947**

Mr. Jonathan Yates, representing Beacon Towers, appeared before the Commission and gave a very brief summary of the applicant's request. Mr. Yates explained the need for a tower in the proposed location and reviewed the request's compliance with the approval standards listed in both the application and in Section 311 of the UDSO; that Beacon Towers is proposing a 180 foot monopole wireless communications tower on property being leased from Anthony and Nancy Padgett located on Slickum Road in Easley; that the property is currently vacant and is heavily wooded; that the tower location on the property exceeds all of the setback requirements of the county, specifically the setbacks from adjoining residential property and from adjacent roadways; that the site affords the opportunity to utilize the existing vegetation as buffer but will be supplemented by vegetation around the equipment enclosure; that the tower will not have to be lighted because of the height.

Mr. Yates pointed out to the members of the Commission that the property owners were present as well as several other supporters of the request.

Mr. Cao asked the applicant how would the facility be secured and would the proposed razor wire be sufficient.

Mr. Yates stated that the applicant would be using the standard fencing height of 8 feet topped with two rows of razor wire; that those two aspects combined have in the past shown to be an excellent deterrent to trespassing and vandalism.

Mr. Reinert asked about the relationship of the tower with the pond that is also located on the property.

Mr. Yates explained that the tower will be approximately 80 to 100 feet from the pond and any disturbance for the tower construction itself would be confined to the compound area surrounding the facility.

Mr. Cato asked if anyone present wished to speak in favor of the request. With there being none, Mr. Cato asked if there was anyone present that wished to speak in opposition. No one was present wishing to speak in opposition.

Since there was no need for rebuttal from the applicant, Mr. Cato closed the public hearing and called for a motion.

Mr. Ballentine motioned that the request for the tower be approved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Johnston. Motion passed unanimously.

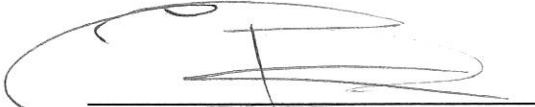
Commissioners and Staff Discussion

Ms. Johnston took time to officially announce her resignation from the Commission due to the fact she would be moving outside of Pickens County.

Adjourn

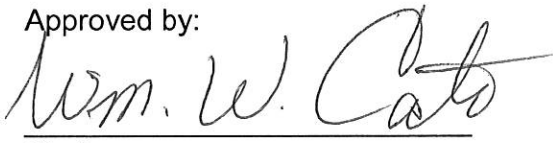
There being no additional matters to be taken up by the Commission, Mr. Ballentine motioned for the meeting to be adjourned. Motion was seconded by Ms. Johnston. Meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Submitted by:


Secretary

9/12/16
Date

Approved by:


Chairman

9/12/2016
Date