

LAYTONSVILLE BOARD OF APPEALS

MEETING MINUTES

December 7, 2015 – 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call

A meeting of the Laytonsville Board of Appeals was called to order by Chair Cecere at 7:35 p.m. Board Members Whittington and Seebold were present. Member Foster was not present.

Guests: Mr. W. Keeler, Representative, Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department, and Mr. and Mrs. U. Pellegrino, 21404 Laytonsville Road, Laytonsville, Maryland.

Minutes

The minutes of the Board Meeting held on August 10, 2015, were submitted for approval. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Member Whittington and seconded by Member Seebold. The motion to accept the minutes was passed unanimously.

Hearing

All parties providing testimony were sworn in by Chair Cecere.

Monopole located at Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department (LDVFD). Amendment to Special Exception Application SE#-01-10. Replacing three antennas with new equipment by AT&T.

Mr. Keeler advised the Board of the Amendment to the Special Exception Application SE#-01-10 submitted by the Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department. He submitted a comprehensive structural analysis report by Tectonic (Exhibit A) on behalf of AT&T providing information relevant to replacing three antennas on the monopole. The Chair asked if the new equipment would increase the current weight on the monopole or decrease its integrity. Member Whittington requested information as to whether the upgraded antennas would have a more powerful frequency.

Since both AT&T and Verizon would be replacing outdated equipment on the monopole, Chair Cecere asked clarification as to which company would be starting the work first.

Mr. Pellegrino, resident of Laytonsville, informed the Board that his concerns were technical in nature regarding the maximum permissive exposure limits as to whether they exceeded what is currently being used, change in frequency – higher or lower, and antenna aperture length if it had increased or decreased in size.

Member Whittington echoed his concerns especially since a representative of AT&T was not present to answer the members' questions. Member Seebold asked if AT&T should submit a letter addressing these various concerns.

The Members reviewed the project information documents (Exhibit B) submitted by AT&T providing site plans, antenna and carrier locations, measurements, etc.

The Members discussed the FCC regulations as well as the permit needed to be obtained by the county before work can proceed.

Chair Cecere mentioned that a representative from AT&T should have been present to answer the technical questions raised by the Members and Guests attending the meeting. He asked for a motion to postpone the hearing until AT&T could be present and address the issues regarding the maximum permissive exposure limits, change in frequency, the antenna aperture length, and the RRH (Remote Radio Head). Member Whittington made a motion to postpone the hearing which was seconded by Chair Cecere. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Cecere requested Mr. Keeler to contact AT&T so that a representative could attend the next Board meeting which will be held on January 11, 2016.

The Hearing was closed.

New Business

The special exception for Boyland Electric, Inc., 21516 Laytonsville Road, Laytonsville, Maryland, granted on December 13, 2011, was reviewed by the Board Members. Boyland Electric, Inc., submitted a letter on November 10, 2015 (Exhibit A), indicating that no changes in the occupation of the premises have been made and that the company continued to comply with all of the conditions set forth in the special exception granted on December 13, 2011. There being no questions, Chair Cecere asked for a motion from the Board. Member Seebold put forth a motion to renew the special exception for the property located at 21516 Laytonsville Road, Laytonsville, Maryland, for another two years (i.e. December 13, 2015 to December 13, 2017). The motion was seconded by Member Whittington. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Chair Cecere asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting which was made by Member Seebold and seconded by Member Whittington. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Board originally scheduled for January 4, 2016, will be held on January 11, 2016, due to the unavailability of some members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nadine Tarwater