

**BYRON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**October 29, 2007**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER, ATTENDANCE**

Planning Commission Chairman Dutch Zeinstra called the special meeting to order at 9:00 p.m., on Monday, October 29, 2007, at the Byron Township Offices, 8085 Byron Center Avenue SW, Byron Center, Michigan 49315.

Commission members present were: Dutch Zeinstra, Seymour Gould, Bernie Schuitema, Jeff Gritter, John Stone Tim Slot and Carroll Elenbaas. Also present were Township Attorney James Brown, Township Planner Larry Nix, Building Inspector Randy Zomerlei and Recording Secretary LaVonne Kuiper.

Larry Nix stated that T-Mobile submitted an application earlier this year for Site Plan approval for a cell tower to be located at 2630 Prescott. There is an existing tower on the property and T-Mobile would like to erect a new tower next to it. This request was tabled since the proper documentation was not submitted. At the September 17, 2007 Planning Commission meeting a public hearing was held for T-Mobile to locate a cell tower on the Township property at 8085 Byron Center Ave. At that meeting this request was also tabled until a meeting could be held with the Township Recreation Department. That meeting has been held and a copy of those minutes are attached and made part of these minutes. Both of these requests remain on the table and if a decision is made on one of these locations, Mr. Haley will probably withdraw one of them.

A motion was made by Schuitema supported by Gritter to remove both of these requests from the table for discussion.

Larry Nix stated we have two choices as to where this tower will go the Prescott location or the Township property. He offered no recommendation or preference.

Bernie Schuitema asked who will be responsible to fill this tower.

T-Mobile owns the tower and they are responsible.

Larry Nix asked if anyone has walked out on the Township site. He said a 50 sq ft., area is to be clearing and some mature trees taken down. These trees are maybe 50 to 60' tall. The tower will stand 100' above the trees. It will stick up and you can't hide it. It

will not be illuminated.

Chairman Zeinstra asked about how many trees would be removed?

They thought maybe three or four trees would be removed.

Mr. Haley was asked where the tower would be placed at the Prescott location. He stated it would be located just south of the existing tower.

Tim Slot stated he thought it was a good use for that part of the Township property. The people living close will not see the tower. He has no problem with it.

Jeff Gritter also agrees that it is a good location.

Bernie Schuitema had no further comments.

John Stone stated that of the two locations he prefers the Township property. He does like the idea of the Township reaping the rewards for having it located in the Township park.

Seymour Gould stated on the Prescott location he does not like to see two towers so close together. The Township property is the better location.

Chairman Zeinstra commented he hates to see mature trees come down but the good side is that the Township will benefit financially.

A motion was made by Gould supported by Stone to allow T-Mobile the special land use to place cell tower in Bicentennial Park on the Township property located at 8085 Byron Center Ave., as per the resolution. A copy is attached and made part of these minutes.

Yes - 7. No - 0 Motion carried.

Mr. Haley then address the commission members stating that based on the decision made tonight he would like to withdraw the application for the Van Solkema property located at 2630 Prescott.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Stone supported by Zeinstra to adjourn the meeting.

Yes - 7. No - 0. Motion carried.

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Bernie Schuitema  
Planning Commission Secretary