

Minutes of:

MEETING OF THE TOWN OF HARMONY ZONING COMMITTEE
TO CONSIDER TWO CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Meeting came to order at 6:00 p.m., July 17, 2019

1) Conditional Use Permit application for a sawmill operated by Crist Miller at E4320 CTH KK. Mr. Miller was not present and no person spoke in opposition or for said sawmill.

Mr. Miller has been open burning sawmill waste wood at his property (last observed on July 11, 2019, at 8:10 p.m.); we understand this is against state law. He must contact WDNR and obtain a "Wood Burning Facility License" "to burn clean, dry untreated wood" or find another acceptable method of wood waste disposal, other than burning.

Town of Harmony Zoning Committee does not recommend granting a Conditional Use Permit for the Crist Miller sawmill until sawmill wood waste disposal is addressed according to State guidelines.

2) Conditional Use Permit for erecting a 300 ft. tall guy wire mobile [cell] tower on the Todd Whistler Property adjacent to Fauske Lane, SE1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 11, Township 12 North, Range 6 west. Tax Parcel #020-00135-0003.

Mr. Chris Henshue representing Bug Tussel Wireless presented a brief description of the proposed tower and its presumed value to the region it would serve.

Following the Question and Answer session with the Bug Tussel representative, Town of Harmony residents, if they wished, were then given 3 minutes each to make statements for or against granting a Conditional Use Permit. All 13 speakers were in opposition to granting the permit to Bug Tussel Wireless. Harmony residents in the vicinity of the proposed tower were most concerned about:

- (1) a decline in property values in the vicinity of a tower of the type proposed;
- (2) health concerns related to the tower's output of radiation;
- (3) visual blight of the high tower and its associated lights;
- (4) disruption of migrating birds.

Two letters were submitted by realtors (1) Bill Brooks of Bill Brooke Realty in Viroqua and (2) Karen Innis at Century 21 in Viroqua and their letters make it clear that any residential property adjacent to or in proximity of a mile or less decreases the residential property value from 10 % to 40 % depending on closeness and visibility of the cell tower.

Individuals making Public Comments to Zoning Committee by Town of Harmony Residents July 17, 2019

- 1) Siri Halverson: against, health concerns, property value decline
- 2) Tom Murphy: against, property value decline, visual blight
- 3) Kate Gitter, against, letter read in her absence: visual blight
- 4) Suzanne Harris: against, property value decline, visual blight
- 5) Tony Reed: against, health concerns, visual blight
- 6) Christine Reed: against, health concerns, visual blight
- 7) Keri Ghelf, against, health concerns

- 8) Idelle Fauske: against, property value decline, health concerns visual blight
- 9) Tim Nordengren: against, property value decline
- 10) Wallace McHenry: against, property value decline, visual blight
- 11) Mike Olson: property value decline, health concerns, visual blight
- 12) Janice Oliver: against property value decline
- 13) Mark Taylor: against, property values decline, health concerns, visual blight

Non-resident of the Town of Harmony

- 14) Katie Johnson: against

Mr. Henshue answered questions from the assembled 28 Town of Harmony residents following the public comment period.

Additionally, 24 letters were submitted to the Zoning Committee, all standing in opposition to the proposed Bug Tussel tower on the Todd Whistler property. They are: 1) Phil Ames, 2) Karla Ames, 3) Debra Bell, 4) David Beutler, 5) Brendon Ghelf, 6) Kari Ghelf, 7) Idelle Fauske, 8) Donald Halverson, 9) Siri Halverson, 10) Kathy Horn, 11) Katie Johnson, 12) Wallace McHenry, 13) Michelle McHenry, 14) Tom Murphy, 15) Peggy and David Murphy, 16) Tim and Sheryl Nordengren, 17) Jody Oliver, 18) Travis Oliver, 19) John S. Pedretti, 20) Anthony Reed, 21) Nannette Tuttle, 22) Cate Gitter, 23) Kris Fitzpatrick and 24) Eight (8) additional names on a sheet that state they do not support a cell tower on Fauske Lane: Margaret O'Rourke, Carole Moon, Joanne Olson, Katherine Koenig, Pauline Bucklan, Nancy Kosiak, and Kathleen Sullivan.

The five member Town of Harmony Zoning Committee voted unanimously to advise the Town Board to **decline the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit to Bug Tussel Wireless to construct a tower on the Todd Whistler property adjacent to Fauske Lane.**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Meeting Minutes prepared and submitted Cathy Sagler and Jim Theler

Town of Harmony Zoning Committee Members

Pete Strachan, Zoning Coordinator

Soterios "Ak" Lallas

Cathy Sagler

Roger Bertsch

Jim Theler

Minutes read and approved unanimously by the Harmony Zoning Committee August 29, 2019