

Board of Selectmen
Minutes of 06/17/05
Approved 6/27/05

I. Call to Order

Chairman Don Gould called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. There were present, Jon Rineman, Selectman and Michael Pardue, Town Administrator. Mr. Pardue served as the Recording Secretary for this session. Selectwoman Creighton was excused from the meeting due to her need to attend a prior professional commitment.

II. Selectmen Items

A. Telecommunications Discussion

Mr. Gould provided an overview of the purpose for holding today's meeting. Mr. Gould explained that the Town was in receipt of requests to construct two separate cell towers; one on Woodland Road and one on Chapel road.

Mr. Gould continued by explaining that the Board of Selectmen do not have any jurisdiction on land use issues but that the Board was concerned with public safety in the Town and what, if any, impact a cell tower(s) might have on public safety communications.

Mr. Gould advised those in attendance that the Board of Selectmen had consulted with, and retained the services of the law firm of Donohue, Tucker and Ciandella.

Mr. Gould acknowledged that the Board had recently met with Attorney Ciandella and that they, the Board were considering the adoption of a document entitled, "Statement of Position of Board of Selectmen on Siting of Personal Wireless Facilities Pursuant to the Terms of the Town of North Hampton Zoning Ordinance".

Mr. Gould and Mr. Rineman both stated that they had read the aforementioned document prior to today's meeting.

Motion / Vote: Mr. Rineman made a motion to adopt Attorney Ciandella's recommendation as outlined in the document entitled, "Statement of Position of Board of Selectmen on Siting of Personal Wireless Facilities Pursuant to the Terms of the Town of North Hampton Zoning Ordinance". Mr. Gould seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 2-0.

Following the vote of the Board, copies of the Statement of Position were made available to those in attendance and Mr. Rineman read the Statement aloud.

Following the reading of the Statement of Position by Mr. Rineman, the Board received questions and comments from those in attendance.

Attorney James Bassett, a lawyer with Ore and Reno was present and representing the Kokernaks. Attorney Bassett spoke favorably of the Boards actions and asked that the Board consider expanding Attorney Ciandella's role as appropriate. Attorney Bassett spoke in favor of the Town also retaining counsel to assist the Planning Board (PB) and the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) in this effort. Attorney Bassett also suggested the Town require the applicant pay for the expenses associated with the Town's work on this matter.

Mr. Gould thanked Mr. Bassett for his comments and assured those in attendance that the Town is very cognizant of the importance of making legal counsel available to the Planning Board and the ZBA.

Attorney Bob Field, representing Dr. David and & Terry Donsker of 8 Shiprock Rd. cited that he too is a Town resident and that he, Field, is not opposed to public safety, wireless communication or emergency alert systems.

Attorney Field suggested that there are many aspects to consider in this matter. He cited that "tower" technology is "old technology" and that more contemporary communication systems are currently available.

Attorney Field urged that all parties work together to accomplish the mission of enhanced telecommunications. He concluded by stating that he applauds the Board's adoption of the aforementioned Statement of Position.

Mr. Chuck Gordon, co-chairman of the Conservation Commission, spoke in support of the Board's policy adoption but urged the Board not limit itself to only the Boies property site.

Mr. Rick Jenkinson, a town resident and employee of Fisher Scientific, spoke in strong support of the Board's actions to bring a resolution to the deficient cell coverage experienced along the easterly side of North Hampton. He stated that cell coverage on the east side of Rt. One is very deficient (virtually non-existent) and that he is hopeful to see a solution come about.

Attorney Peter Loughlin spoke in support of the Board's proactive effort to look for an appropriate site on which to construct a tower.

B. Other Business

None.

III. Adjournment

Being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Rineman made a motion to adjourn at 9:33 a.m. Mr. Gould seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Pardue
Town Administrator