

**ALAMO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
March 6, 2012 - Approved**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Goyings called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Goyings, Vice-Chair Baker, Secretary Veenstra, Member LaBrie, Member Smith, Member Sweitzer, Member Feniger

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Soltis (legal counsel for Alamo Township), Supervisor Vlietstra, Barb Fisher (Building Department), Tucker Lahr (NextNav) and other interested parties (see attached attendance record)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SPECIAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 20, 2012: Motion was made by Member LaBrie and seconded by Chair Goyings to accept the minutes with changes-**Carried**

PUBLIC HEARING – CELL TOWER CO-LOCATION SEUP

Chair Goyings opened the public hearing portion of the meeting at 7:05

Barb Fisher introduced the Application for a Special Exception Use Permit for the planned co-location of antenna and related equipment to an existing communications tower at the facility located at 7833 Adobe Street. Barb also provided some historical background and let us know that the SEUP was required through no fault of the applicant. She also mentioned that the plans for the proposed co-location will need to be reviewed and approved by the Alamo Township Building Inspector.

Tucker Lahr from NexNav described the purpose of the proposed antenna and described the equipment that they are proposing be co-located at the property.

Roger Hensley (6796 W. D Ave) made some inquiries of Mr. Lahr regarding the level of radio waves from the proposed installation. Mr. Lahr responded that installation operated at 30 watts.

Attorney Soltis informed the Commission that attempts to locate a SEUP for the existing communications tower at 7833 Adobe have been unsuccessful. It is surmised that the tower was built around 1999. He also informed the commission that there has been recent federal regulations passed which make local municipalities duty bound to approve co-location proposals such as the one that we are currently considering. He did say that we are able to attach certain conditions to our approval.

Chair Goyings closed the public hearing portion of the meeting at 7:20.

After some discussion, **Motion** was made by Vice-Chair Baker and seconded by Member Feniger to:

approve the Special Exemption Use Permit for the planned co-location of antennae and related equipment to the existing communications tower located at 7833 Adobe Street with the following conditions:

1. No substantial modifications to the equipment (on the tower or at its base) will be made without permission from Alamo Township
2. NextNav, or its successors, will notify Alamo Township within 60 days of any changes in ownership and/or contact information.

A role call vote was taken with unanimous approval-**Carried**

NOTE: It was understood by the Planning Commission that no additional SEUPs will be required for this tower

NOISE ORDINANCE: Motion was made by Member Labrie and seconded by Member Feniger to approve the recommendation of the new Noise Ordinance, as written, to the Township Board.

A role call vote was taken: Member Feniger (yes), Secretary Veenstra (no), Member Sweitzer (yes), Member Smith (yes), Chair Goyings (yes), Vice Chair Baker (yes) and Member Labrie (yes)-**Carried**

PLANNING CONSULTANT: Motion was made by Secretary Veenstra and seconded by Vice Chair Baker to recommend that the Township Board contract with the PREIM Group for consultative services-**Carried**

MASTER PLAN UPDATE: Chair Goyings noted that committee work is continuing on changes to the future land use map and that additional updating of the master plan will need to be addressed by the commission soon.

CITIZEN COMMENT – NON AGENDA ITEMS:

Citizen comment regarding installing a wind turbine and TV antenna (referred to the building department)

Citizen comment regarding sensitivities to radio waves

Member Sweitzer comments regarding sign inventory and sizes

David Veenstra was thanked for his role in locating and delivering the conference table which was recently donated to the Township.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Secretary Veenstra and seconded by Vice-Chair Baker to adjourn the meeting-- **Carried**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

David Veenstra-Secretary