
City of Bethel, Alaska

Planning Commission

July 11, 2013

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission was held on at 6: 30 pm in the City Hall conference room in Bethel, Alaska.

Chairman, John Guinn, called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the Commission, the following members were present for roll call:

John Guinn, Joy Shantz (telephonically), Abe Palacios, and Rick Robb. Absent: Excused absence: Cliff Linderoth.

Ex-Officio members present Rachael Pitts, Planning Director, and Betsy Jumper, Recorder.

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

- None

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE JULY 11, 2013 MEETING

MOVED:	Abe Palacios	To approve the agenda for the July 11, 2013 meeting.
SECONDED:	Rick Robb	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION		
All in favor Motion passes; 4 yes and 0 opposed.		

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 13, 2013 MEETING L MEETING

MOVED:	Joy Shantz	To approve the minutes of the June 13, 2013 meeting.
SECONDED:	Abe Palacios	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION		
All in favor Motion passes; 4 yes and 0 opposed.		

- VI. PLANNER'S REPORT:** Rachael presented the monthly planner's report. Bubba asked about site plan permits issued. Joy asked about the Kipsusvik Road area; did the plat show the access on the site plan?
- VII. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:** Joy: asks that everyone please speak up loudly and clearly so she can hear in order to make decisions; John: requests that people come up to the table in order to accommodate Joy's request; Rick: went over the Council's decision and reasons for referring the conditional use application/appeal of the cell tower back to the Planning Commission; John: apologized for being late and commented on the beautiful weather.
- VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Public Hearing; Conditional Use Application from United Utilities, Inc., for a Telecommunications Tower and Utility Structure to be located at 9116 Ptarmigan Street, Bethel, Alaska, 99559
- IX.** Chairman Guinn opened the public hearing.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

- Hugh Forbes** spoke in favor of the tower;
- Nick Miller**, a UUI/GCI Engineer, gave a power point presentation on the cell tower;
- David Trantham**- spoke in opposition against the tower;
- John Wallace** – spoke in favor of the tower;
- Lori Strickler** – spoke in opposition against the tower;
- Jerry Williams** –spoke in opposition against the tower;
- Tim Bee** – spoke in opposition against the tower;
- Tim Meyers, Lisa Meyers, and Tiffany Tony** submitted emails opposing the tower;
- Craig Mollerstuen** – spoke in favor of the tower.

A petition in favor of the tower was submitted by GCI, with approximately 139 names.

Chairman Guinn closed the public hearing.

The Planning Commission members discussed the topics at length.

The findings of the Planning Commission:

1. The conditional use application does not conform to the intent and purpose of the land use per the Bethel Municipal Code, Section 18.60.040, specifically B, numbers 4 and 5.
2. The applicant should find a commercial piece of land.

MOTION OF THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION SUBMITTED FROM UNITED UTILITIES, INC., FOR A TELECOMMUNICATOINS TOWER AND UTILITY STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 9116 PTARMIGAN STREET, BETHEL, ALASKA 99559. LEGAL DESCRIPTION PLAT #81-2, LOT 15, BLOCK 10.

MOVED:	Rick Robb	To approve a conditional use application submitted from United Utilities, Inc., for a telecommunications tower and utility structure to be located at 9116 Ptarmigan Street in Bethel, AK. 99559. Legal description plat #81-2, Lot 15, Block 10.
SECONDED:	Joy Shantz	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor Motion fais; 1 yes and 3 opposed; Robb aye; Shantz, Palacios, and Guinn, nay.	

X. NEW BUSINESS: A. COMMISSIONER MIKE WALTER RESIGNATION MOTION TO ACCEPT MIKE WALTER'S RESIGNATION FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION

MOVED:	Abe Palacios	To accept Mike Walters' resignation from the Planning Commission.
SECONDED:	Rick Robb	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor Motion passes; 4 yes and 0 opposed.	

XI. ADJOURNMENT, Motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOVED:	Abe Palacios	To adjourn the meeting at 8:30.
SECONDED:	Joy Shantz	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor Motion passes; 4 yes and 0 opposed.	

Next meeting will be on August 8, 2013.


Betsy Jumper, Recorder


John Guinn, Chairman