

**Town of Haverhill
PLANNING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at 6:00 PM
R. E. Clifford Memorial Building
65 South Court St.
Woodsville, NH 03785
And on Zoom**

CALL TO ORDER: Gary Hebert, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Roll Call Attendance: Joe Longacre, Vice Chair (Here); Don Hammond (Absent), John Nelepovitz (Here); Howard Hatch, ex officio (Here); Gary Hebert, Chair (Present). A quorum was met.

Town Employees Present:

- Jennifer Boucher, Assistant Town Manager (ATM)
- Joanna Bligh, Planning Board Clerk

Town Counsel: Attorney Joe Driscoll

Members of the Public Present In Person:

Susie Tann

Mary Patridge

Paul Hayes, *Caledonia Record*

Sergeant Michael DiDomenico, Haverhill Police Department

Francis Parisi, Vertex Towers

Members of the Public Present Online: Tim Johnson, Vertex Towers

DESIGNATION OF ALTERNATES: None.

AGENDA APPROVAL

- Chair Hebert requested moving the minutes approval and the building permit review until after the Master Plan under Pending Business.

MOTION #1: Chair Hebert made a motion and Vice Chair Longacre seconded the motion to approve the Agenda as amended.

Voice Vote: All approved, none opposed, none abstained. The motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION #2: Hatch made a motion and Vice Chair Longacre seconded the motion to enter the Public Hearing at 6:05 PM.

Voice Vote: All approved, none opposed, none abstained. The motion passed.

Fran Parisi, Vertex Towers

Parisi offered background related to the approval of a personal wireless service facility (PWSF) in Haverhill in 2001 or 2002, but there seems to be no record in the Town archives.

Parisi provided an overview of the current Board votes on the Vertex Towers applications – the Planning Board approved the site plan and the Zoning Board of Adjustment approved four of the six variances. Parisi continued that the two denied variances related to camouflage and the required 2-mile distance from an existing PWSF. Parisi continued that the 2-mile requirement is a nonissue because the existing tower is a Grafton County dispatch/public safety tower and not a PWSF.

In Parisi's revised application to the Planning Board, he requested approval for a camouflaged monopole with CORE-10 rust coloration. Parisi provided photo simulations of the monopole tower.

Board Discussion:

- Vice Chair Longacre asked about paint failure, and Parisi replied that the coloration is baked into the metal and does not fade, chip, or flake.
- Discussion continued about camouflaging the pole with artificial tree limbs or a flag, which Parisi discussed as inadequate options for many reasons.
- Nelepovitz noted that safety is his primary concern with the lack of cell phone service because he drives a bus on the back roads where there is no cell service. Nelepovitz noted that in the Town's Master Plan and on numerous surveys, the lack of cell and internet service was the #1 issue.
- Chair Hebert asked about the need to discuss the Grafton County dispatch tower, and Attorney Driscoll noted that this application before the Planning Board is for the camouflaged tower only.

Public Discussion:

- Susie Tann (Haverhill) stated that she supports cell service, but the Town needs to preserve the visual landscape. Tann discussed the camouflage of pine tree limbs. Mary Patridge expressed her agreement.
- Sergeant Michael DiDomenico, Haverhill Police Department stated that not having cell service is a public safety issue because the police do not have service everywhere in Haverhill.

MOTION #3: Nelepovitz made a motion and Vice Chair Longacre seconded the motion to close the Public Hearing at 7:01PM.

Voice Vote: All approved, none opposed, none abstained. The motion passed.

RECESSED

Chair Hebert recessed the meeting at 7:02 PM.

RECONVENED

Chair Hebert reconvened the meeting at 7:19 PM.

BOARD'S DELIBERATION:

Chair Hebert asked the Board if the vote on the Vertex Towers applications should be tabled or voted on. Discussion ensued.

MOTION #4: Nelepovitz made a motion and Chair Hebert seconded the motion approve Vertex Towers amended site plan with camouflage.

Roll Call Vote: Joe Longacre, Vice Chair (Nay); John Nelepovitz (Aye); Howard Hatch, ex officio (Nay); Gary Hebert, Chair (Aye). The vote was tied 2-2. The motion was denied.

Attorney Driscoll recommended tabling the vote until the next meeting when five members would be present. Attorney Driscoll noted that a Planning Board denial of the revised application could go to court.

MOTION #5: Chair Hebert made a motion and Hatch seconded the motion to rescind the previous vote relate to the approval of the Vertex Towers amended site plan with camouflage.

Roll Call Vote: Joe Longacre, Vice Chair (Aye); John Nelepovitz (Nay); Howard Hatch, ex officio (Aye); Gary Hebert, Chair (Aye). The vote was three in favor and one opposed. The motion passed.

MOTION #6: Chair Hebert made a motion and Nelepovitz seconded the motion to table the approval of the Vertex Towers amended site plan with camouflage until the next meeting.

Voice Vote: All approved, none opposed, none abstained. The motion passed.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 6:00 PM

- Attorney Driscoll recommended that the Board recess the Public Hearing and reconvene at the next Planning Board meeting date. Thus, the Board needed to reconvene the Public Hearing and then recess.

RE-ENTER PUBLIC HEARING at 7:43 PM

MOTION #7: Chair Hebert made a motion and Nelepovitz seconded the motion to remove the tabled revised site plan vote and re-enter the PUBLIC HEARING at 7:43 PM for the Vertex Towers revised site plan with camouflage.

Voice Vote: All approved, none opposed, none abstained. The motion passed.

MOTION #8: Chair Hebert made a motion and Nelepovitz seconded the motion to RECESS the PUBLIC HEARING for the Vertex Towers revised site plan with camouflage until March 22 at 6:00 PM.

Voice Vote: All approved, none opposed, none abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

RECESS APPLICATION for VERTEX TOWERS

The Town of Haverhill Planning Board by motion, second, and unanimous vote has recessed the Public Hearing related to the Vertex Towers revised site plan until **March 22, 2022, at 6:00 PM**. The Public Hearing will go back into session no later than 6:15 PM on that date. All participatory rights for the applicant and parties are deferred to this date certain.

PENDING BUSINESS

Master Plan with June Garneau (excused)

The Planning Board members reviewed the revised postcard, which is intended to be a notice to Town residents about the Master Plan Survey, and approved the maroon color.

The members reviewed and revised the final questions on the Master Plan Survey to be sent to Garneau for incorporation of changes and printing. The members discussed the number of surveys needed and that the copies are to be available for the March 8 Voting Day.

NEW BUSINESS

Building Permit for Diane Dickinson and Tracey Salisbury, 57 Benedicts Way (#2022-06; Map 414, Lot 109.1)

Board Members’ Comments:

- Vice Chair Longacre commented on the retaining wall on the site plan and if there was a drop off on the property behind the house.
- Nelepovitz commented that the residents built the house in 2021 and now are finishing the garage.
- Hatch commented that the construction was OK.
- Chair Hebert asked if there was a wetland issue on the property, and Nelepovitz replied that the owners’ building site was away from the wetlands area.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

MOTION #9: Vice Chair Longacre made a motion and Nelepovitz seconded the motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from **January 25, 2022**, as amended.

Voice Vote: All approved, none opposed, none abstained. The motion passed.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES (previously scheduled): None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (not previously scheduled): None.

CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATION: None.

COMMENTS OF TOWN STAFF:

Clerk Bligh asked the Chair to reassess Hammond’s Planning Board position.

