



TOWN OF LOOMIS
PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION MINUTES
LOOMIS DEPOT
5775 HORSESHOE BAR ROAD
LOOMIS, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY	DECEMBER 17, 2013	7:30 PM
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CALL TO ORDER Call to order by Chairman Hogan at 7:32 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present- Chairman Hogan
 Commissioner Miller
 Commissioner Wilson
 Absent: None

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH TO INCOMING PLANNING COMMISSIONERS: **Brian Baker and Jeff Duncan**

RECOGNITION OF DEPARTING PLANNING COMMISSIONER: **Janet Thew**

BRIEF RECESS
Time recess started: 7:40 pm
Time meeting resumed: 7:59pm

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Chairman Mike Hogan suggested selecting the Planning Commission Vice-Chair on the January agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Gary Liss, 4395 Gold Trail Way, stated the following:
- Croft Wood project – have staff check on project posting
 - Walmart project - suggested staff check into the conditions of approval compliance
- Miguel Ucovich, 5911 Craig, stated the following:
- Croft Wood Project - housing development in progress and posting sign is outdated
 - spoke to the manager at Walmart who has no knowledge of the kiosk or other requirements of the agreement - requested staff follow up

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

If items on the Agenda will be rescheduled for a different day and time, it will be announced at this time. All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and all will be enacted by one motion with a voice vote. There is no separate discussion of these items unless members of the Planning Commission, audience or staff request specific items to be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate action. Any items removed will be considered after the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion to accept the agenda: Pat Miller

Seconded by: Brian Baker

Vote: 5 ayes
0 noes

CONSENT AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. **OCTOBER 22, 2013 MINUTES**
with Commissioners Baker, Duncan, and Miller abstaining
Motion to accept October 22nd minutes: Jean Wilson
Seconded by: Mike Hogan
Vote: 2 yes
0 noes

APPROVE

- 2. **PROJECT STATUS REPORT**
Commissioner Wilson asked for clarification of the date of the Tree ordinance workshop
Marianne confirmed date as 2/1/14
Motion to accept the planning status report: Jean Wilson
Seconded by Pat Miller
5 ayes
0 noes

RECEIVE AND FILE

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT AGENDA – no comment

PUBLIC HEARING

- 3. **PROJECT #13-09 T-MOBILE CELL TOWER #SC74101A USE PERMIT (UP), VARIANCE (VAR), AND NEGATIVE DECLARATION (A MODIFICATION TO #01-08 CINGULAR WIRELESS ANTENNAE FACILITY #SA-955-01 CUP) 5475 ROCKLIN ROAD, PCWA WATER TANK SITE, APN 045-161-019 & -022**

The project consists of the modification of a previously approved Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the construction and operation of a telecommunications facility. The modifications include: removal of antenna panels from PCWA tank; construction of a 45-foot tall monopole on a new ± 65- square foot concrete pad adjacent to a leased, fenced equipment yard; relocation and installation of new 8-foot chain link fence sections to secure water tank; and, designation of a walking path for technician access to equipment yard. A variance to the 35-foot limit in the RE zone district is requested in order to construct the 45-foot tall monopole. A Negative Declaration has been prepared and circulated under CEQA. A No Effect Determination (NED) has been approved and issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

RECOMMENDATION: Hear staff report, take public comment, discuss and approve Resolution #13-06 for a Negative Declaration, Use Permit and Variance with the findings in Exhibit A and the conditions in Exhibit B.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tim Miller, speaker for the applicant, described the project

Chairman Hogan distributed and read the following letters:

(letter) Bill and Penny Loscotoff, 5305 Poppy Ridge, opposed to the cell tower:

- the existing water tower and proposed pole are an eyesore
- it is an unfair burden to the residents in the area

(letter) John and Inger Barakat, 5345 Poppy Ridge, opposed to the tower:

- potential health issues
- it is an eyesore
- building the tower is against the Town’s strict policies regarding such development

Gary Liss, 4395 Gold Trail, asked the following questions:

- will this improve telecommunications in the area?
- can the pole be camouflaged better than as a brown pole?

John Barakat, 5345 Poppy Ridge Court, restated the following:

- there are potential health problems caused by cell towers
- would like it placed in a commercial area

Robert Barakat, 5335 Poppy Ridge, stated the following:

- there are health concerns with the placement of the tower in a residential area
- would like it placed in a non-residential area

Miquel Ucovich, 5911 Craig Court, stated the following:

- the original tower did not require a variance to be placed on the water tower
- other spots in town are available to place tower
- there are potential negative health effects of microwave towers
- encouraged thorough research

Roger Smith, 6755 Wells Ave, stated the following:

- it is important to preserve the rural character of the area
- implored committee to look at options to camouflage the tower

Irene Smith, 6755 Wells Ave: Voiced her concern over potential danger to the water supply in the water tower

John Barakat, 5345 Poppy Ridge Court: Reiterated concern over potential health issues caused by telecommunication towers

Tim Miller, speaker for the applicant responded to public comment:

- Stated that since FCC regulations forbid using health concerns as reasons to oppose the placement of cell towers, he did not address those concerns in his introduction

Comments by the Commission:

Commissioner Duncan –clarified:

- the panels on new tower are similar to the existing panels
- this is the only tower serving the south side of town

Chairman Hogan – clarified that communication will only be slightly improved as a result of the new tower

Commissioner Wilson - clarified that the radiation levels will stay the same as the existing cells poles

Commissioner Baker -discussed future tree growth in reference to the tower's effectiveness

Commissioner Miller discussed the following:

- other cell sites in Town
- the appearance of the pole

Mr. Miller (speaker for the applicant) –discussed the following:

- color, appearance of the tower
- the cost of tree poles
- height requirement of tree pole- needs to be 8 to 10 feet taller than the proposed pole making the structure to be constructed about 53-55 feet tall

Motion to approve project with additional condition for applicant to work with staff to determine the best color for the pole to blend in with the surrounding area.

Moved: Jean Wilson

Seconded by: Brian Baker

Passed by the following roll call votes:

YES: Jean Wilson, Mike Hogan, Brian Baker, Jeff Duncan

NO: Pat Miller

ADJOURN: **There was no further business, Chairman Hogan adjourned at 9:37 PM.**

Chairman Mike Hogan

Carol Parker, Planning Assistant