

**BLOUNT COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2009**

BZA MEMBERS PRESENT: Harold Brown, Larry Campbell, Stanley Headrick, Rob Walker, Gordon Wright, Jim Melton (present but not voting)

The minutes from the previous meeting were read and a motion to approve was made by Harold Brown with a second by Larry Campbell. The members voted unanimously to accept the minutes from the last meeting.

CASES BEING HEARD AND ACTIONS TAKEN:

- 1. VARIANCE: ONE**
- 2. SPECIAL EXCEPTION: TWO**
- 3. APPEALS: NONE**

Variance:

1. Jeff Lawson is requesting side setback variance for the remaining properties in Heritage Crossing Phase 1. The request is to allow a 5-foot side setback to build in accordance to the manner in which the subdivision was started.

--Gary Kayko spoke in opposition.

Harold Brown made a motion to approve the variance. Gordon Wright made a second.

Vote:	Harold Brown	YES
	Larry Campbell	YES
	Stanley Headrick	YES
	Rob Walker	YES
	Gordon Wright	YES

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Special Exception:

1. Wireless Properties is requesting a cellular tower at 224 Myers Road. This item was deferred from the November, 2009 BZA meeting.

Speaking in favor:

--Attorney Arthur Seymour, Jr. spoke on behalf of Wireless Properties. He explained that the request is for a 180 foot brown, unlighted monopole. It will have the capacity to hold telecommunications for five carriers. It is designed to cover the Townsend area.

--David Webb, a performance engineer with AT&T spoke regarding low signal levels in the Townsend area. Mr. Webb also answered questions from the Board.

--Matt Bates with Wireless Properties answered questions from the Board.

--Larry Perry, an independent consultant, answered questions from the Board.

--Nancy Myers Huitt, co-owner of the property, presented a petition with signatures of 335 people who support the cell tower.
--Mike Tipton, co-owner of the property, spoke in support of the cell tower.
--David Black, with Wireless Properties, spoke in support of the cell tower.
--Jody Montgomery, owner of Punkin Center Motorcycle Resort on 129, spoke in support of the cell tower.

Speaking in opposition:

--Jennifer Moore, Stonegate HOA President, spoke in opposition and asked the Board to consider other options and locations for the cell tower.
--Bill Irby spoke in opposition.
--Pat Jenkins, mayor of Townsend, spoke in opposition.
--Gary Cox, a Stonegate resident, spoke in opposition.
--Debbie Savidge, realtor and Stonegate resident spoke in opposition.
--Debbie Claypool spoke in opposition.
--David Webb spoke.

Stan Headrick made a motion to defer action for one month until the January BZA meeting to reevaluate the Rudd Hollow site, other options that may be available to include requirements of city of Townsend, camouflaging techniques, and to evaluate the height of a tower pole that is needed. Gordon Wright made a second.

Vote:	Harold Brown	YES
	Larry Campbell	YES
	Stanley Headrick	YES
	Rob Walker	YES
	Gordon Wright	YES

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

2. Jeff and Jan Jackson are requesting a family commercial enterprise at 5530 Evergreen Farm Lane.

--Jeff Jackson gave a presentation.
--Lynn Schmerber spoke in opposition.
--Susan Brian spoke in opposition.
--Joe Wood spoke in opposition.
--Robert McCaffrey spoke in opposition.
--Joyce Sigle spoke in opposition.
--Jeff Polakiewicz spoke in opposition.
--Bill Matula spoke in opposition.
--Wayne Robbins spoke in opposition.
--J. D. Quall (?) spoke in opposition.

Larry Campbell made a motion to deny the special exception. Gordon Wright made a second.

Vote:	Harold Brown	YES
	Larry Campbell	YES
	Stanley Headrick	YES
	Rob Walker	YES
	Gordon Wright	YES

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.