

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Date: September 6, 2011

Time: 3:00 P.M.

Members Present: Kim Likins, George Williams, Bill Harkins

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Scott Liggett, Charles Cousins, Shea Farrar, Lavarn Lucas, Ed Boring, Jill Foster

Others Present: Ken Heitzke, Bill Ferguson, *Councilmen*

Media Present: Tom Barton, *The Island Packet*

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 P.M.

2. FOIA Compliance:

Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted and mailed in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

3. Committee Business:

1. Approval of Minutes:

Councilman Williams moved to approve the Minutes of August 2, 2011. Chairman Likins seconded. The Minutes of August 2, 2011 were unanimously approved.

4. Unfinished Business: None

5. New Business

Jenkins Island Tower Conceptual Location

Shea Farrar, Senior Planner advised staff is requesting the Public Facilities Committee forward a recommendation to Town Council to approve in concept the location of a telecommunications tower on the Town's Jenkins Island property, with the following conditions:

- An easement and land lease with American Tower are executed for the site.
- The tower is a monopole style tower with a maximum height of 140 feet.
- The antenna space from 120 feet to 130 feet is reserved for the Town's use at no charge.
- The site is limited to an area approximately 70 feet by 70 feet in size.
- The access to the site is off of the driveway leading to the Reverse Osmosis Plant.
- The storage and use of any potential ground water pollutants is prohibited within the 100 foot radius Pollution Free Zone for the adjacent well.

American Tower has requested the Town allow the construction and operation of a 140 foot monopole telecommunications tower on Town owned property on Jenkins

Island, adjacent to Hilton head Public Service District's Reverse Osmosis facility. The tower would be the same as the tower planned for Fire Station 7 and would help improve service on Jenkins Island, which includes the critical U.S. 278 corridor. Space would be reserved on the tower for the Town's emergency management equipment.

Jim Collett, Chairman of the Town's Telecommunications Task Force stated they want to support the tower, but want to come back mid-October to brief Town Council and the public. We have had meetings with executives from Verizon and AT&T as well as the tower companies and we have learned a lot. AT&T said they envision as many as 12 additional towers on the island.

Councilman Harkins asked Deputy Fire Chief Ed Boring what this tower will do for Fire & Rescue. Chief Boring stated it allows them to grow into mobile data transfer. We use considerable amount of mobile data right now on our fire engines and ambulances. We are connected by way of Verizon air cards. The space that we asked for on the tower will allow us at some point build in cooperation with the Feds a wide area network that will work on the same type of technology that cell data is transferred today.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Harkins moved acceptance of staff's recommendation and suggest we move this forward for Town Council's consideration. Councilman Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Adjournment:

Councilman Williams moved to adjourn. Councilman Harkins seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen D. Knox
Senior Administrative Assistant

Approved October 4, 2011