

**BLOUNT COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018**

BZA MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Chesney (Chairman), Joe Everett, Stanley Headrick, Brian King, Member(s) absent: Bruce Damrow and alternate John Rush.

Roll was called and a quorum was present.

Brian King made a motion to approve the March 1, 2018, minutes; seconded by Joe Everett. The vote received unanimous approval.

CASES BEING HEARD AND ACTIONS TAKEN:

- 1. VARIANCE: None**
- 2. APPEAL: None**
- 3. SPECIAL EXCEPTION:
Cellular Telecommunications Antenna at 7927 Carnes Rd, Townsend**

Special Exceptions:

Request by Verizon Wireless for a cellular telecommunications antenna at 7927 Carnes Road, Townsend; Map 096, parcel 041.00:

Applicant submitted an application for a cellular monopole tower. The property, Map 096, Parcel 041.00 is zoned Rural District 1 (R-1) and totals approximately 15.2 acres. Wireless telecommunications facilities are allowed in all districts, subject to approval of a special exception, pursuant to Sections 7.4 and 115. The project was forwarded for review to Larry D. Perry, County's consultant for review of wireless telecommunications facilities. A copy of the consultant's report was given to members for review.

The Highway Superintendent Jeff Headrick, Blount County Attorney Craig Garrett, and County's consultant Larry Perry were present.

Attorney Joey Hargis and the engineer, representing Verizon Wireless, presented in detail the request for adding a cellular telecommunications antenna. This tower will be 195 feet tall with a 4 foot lightning rod, 199 feet total, and space for 3 additional companies to co-locate. The tower will help with the need for capacity since there is an increase in data demand.

Jerry Godfrey spoke in favor of the cell tower and inquired about utilities and access to the tower. Power and access would come across Carnes Road on the far eastern property boundary of the Carnes property adjacent to the Rogers property.

Mike Polak, property owner adjacent to the Carnes property spoke against the cell tower and stated that they were not notified of the special exception and BZA meeting; they saw the sign

posted on the Carnes property. He noted that they are in the process of building a new house and stated that their view of the mountains would be obstructed by the cell tower.

Staff recommended to the Chairman that the item be tabled in response to Section 7.4.C (9) – Public Notice. Staff noted that an error was inadvertently made in notifications regarding cell towers, acknowledging that no notifications by mail for adjacent property owners and property owners within 1000 feet were sent. Notification for the meeting was based on a regular special exception process, sign posted near property and public notice placed in local paper, The Daily Times. Staff recommended tabling the item to allow for proper notification. The County Attorney concurred with staff’s recommendation and Mr. Hargis agreed. Staff noted that the item would be brought back on a future agenda and asked the applicant to provide any additional materials prior to that meeting.

Stan Headrick made a motion to table the item; seconded by Brian King.

Vote:	Larry Chesney	YES
	Bruce Damrow	ABSENT
	Joe Everett	YES
	Stanley Headrick	YES
	Brian King	YES

Motion to table the cellular telecommunications antenna at 7927 Carnes Road, Townsend passed.

Other Business: None.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.