

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
ARCHITECTURAL BOARD OF REVIEW
CITY OF INDEPENDENCE
February 20, 2008**

AGENDA:

New Business:

1. **6350 Selig Drive** – Proposed generator by Verizon Wireless to be placed within the fence of the cellular communications tower which would supply back up power to their equipment.

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m. by Chairman Casini and the following responded to Roll Call:

PRESENT: **Norm Casini, Chairman**
 Don Elewski, City Engineer
 Carl Opatrny, Building Commissioner
 Jeff Markley, City Planner

ABSENT: **Pete Nelson, Fire Chief**
 Ron White, Economic Development

Chairman Casini asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 6, 2008.

City Engineer Elewski, seconded by Building Commissioner Opatrny, made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 6, 2008.

ROLL CALL: **Yeas: Opatrny, Elewski**
 Nays: None
 Abstain: Casini
 MOTION CARRIED

Chairman Casini stated that he would like to express his rejection of the 5633 Brecksville Road monument sign submitted and approved at the last meeting which he was absent because of the sign content and structural presentation. This monument sign is a permanent, signatory symbol and an identification of and adopted by the City of Independence for over 60 years of longevity and has had a simple aesthetic display. Therefore, the Chairman just wanted to make sure that the Minutes reflect that he would have voted “no”.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ARCHITECTURAL BOARD OF REVIEW
CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, OHIO
FEBRUARY 20, 2008**

6350 Selig Drive – Mr. Matt Newsome of FMHC on behalf of Verizon Wireless was in attendance. Also in attendance was Independence Technical Service Director Tom Avsec. Mr. Newsome stated that Verizon is proposing to place a 60kw diesel generator just outside of their existing equipment room to back up their equipment in the event there is an extended power outage.

Chairman Casini asked Mr. Avsec if he had any questions with regard to the project. Mr. Avsec stated that the City is in the process of relocating the City's antenna from the City Hall tower to the tower at the Service garage. Part of that process is that they have to put in a very small shelter with a very little bit of equipment. Mr. Avsec asked if there was any way possible that instead of them having to put a shelter up with a little generator that they could utilize anything that Verizon is doing there to help the City's cause. Mr. Newsome asked if it was sharing the generator that Verizon would put up there. Mr. Avsec stated that the City needs an area no bigger than 6' x 6' for their equipment. Chairman Casini stated that the area is there on the site within the fence. Chairman Casini asked if there could be some cooperation out of Verizon. Mr. Avsec stated that they would only be locating a single antenna at the top of the pole. Mr. Avsec will be removing the monopole at City Hall. Mr. Avsec stated that they were looking at putting a small 6' x 8' shelter within the fenced area. They will run their own ice bridge. The shelter needs a generator backup. Mr. Avsec is here to ask the applicant if Verizon would consider doing this. Mr. Newsome stated that he is not sure if Verizon will do that or not. He is actually a contractor working for Verizon that is mainly responsible for finding the existing sites and working with the cities on getting it permitted. Mr. Newsome also works with the existing tower owner which is Crown Castle on the amendment to the existing lease. Mr. Newsome could definitely find out or at least point Mr. Avsec in the right direction. Mr. Newsome knows that they have worked with other landlords where they have done some generator sharing. A lot of it would depend on the power requirements for the City's equipment. Mr. Newsome stated that he would not be the one to give the final determination; although he can point Mr. Avsec in the right direction.

City Planner Markley asked if the City owned the ground that the proposed building would be going on. Chairman Casini stated that there would be no problem at all. Mr. Avsec stated that the City has such a small power requirement; yet they have to jump through hoops to get this done. It would be such a huge help to just slide the City's little piece of equipment into somebody else's enclosure. Mr. Avsec stated that they would probably only use 6 amps of power. Mr. Newsome asked Mr. Avsec if he was actually asking if the City could go in the existing shelter or is he asking to share in the output of the generator. Mr. Avsec stated "all or some". Mr. Newsome stated that he can answer part of that. He does know that in a perfect scenario the generator Verizon is proposing would go within their own shelter. Because of the analog and digital equipment that is in there now, there is just no room in there to even put in their own generator in their shelter. Mr. Newsome stated that he can definitely find out the answer as to whether or not Verizon will allow the City to share in some of the generator.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ARCHITECTURAL BOARD OF REVIEW
CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, OHIO
FEBRUARY 20, 2008**

Mr. Avsec stated that it would be a great help also. Mr. Newsome stated that Verizon wants to be a good neighbor, and they have done this in other situations where they have done sharing with other landlords. Mr. Newsome stated that Mr. Avsec asked about the ground space within the existing fence now and working with Crown Castle to obtain the ground space. City Planner Markley stated that the lease would probably need to be modified.

Chairman Casini would like Mr. Newsome to get Mr. Avsec the information relative to the property and so the City can place their unit on the site and also the equipment shelter. Mr. Newsome stated that Verizon actually opened up the equipment room. The old analog equipment runs the entire length; the digital equipment; which is all the new stuff, actually runs along the entire length as well. It is a good size room; unfortunately, there is no room in the shelter. Verizon actually wanted to put the generator within the existing room. Because of the existing equipment that is in there, they are not able to place their generator in the shelter. Mr. Newsome stated that they actually met with Crown Castle last December. In addition to amending the existing lease with Crown Castle to incorporate the additional lease area for the generator; he also runs it through the permitting process with the City.

City Engineer Elewski asked how the generator will run. Mr. Newsome stated that it will run on diesel fuel. The tank is actually part of the unit that sits under the generator itself. It is actually completely enclosed in an enclosure. The loudest that it actually will be is about 56 decibels which is comparable to a vacuum cleaner. It is actually very quiet for a generator. City Engineer Elewski asked if the concrete slab which the generator would sit on would be reinforced. Mr. Newsome stated that it would actually be a floating pad.

Chairman Casini, seconded by City Engineer Elewski, made a motion to approve the generator by Verizon Wireless to be placed within the fence of the cellular communications tower which would supply back up power to their equipment.

**ROLL CALL: Yeas: Casini, Elewski, Opatrny
 Nays: None
 MOTION CARRIED**

There being no further business to discuss, the regular Architectural Board of Review meeting was adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

Norm Casini, Chairman

Debi Beal, Secretary

