

CITY OF DUQUESNE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

Date: 7 July 2014

Chairman Ray Brown called the meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call: Present: Chairman Ray Brown, Vice-Chairman/Secretary Ken Ayton, Cathy Hudson, Gary Jackson, Gerald Keller, George Reeve, Barbara Welch, Denny White. Absent: Roland Harmon.

A motion was made by Denny White and seconded by George Reeve to accept the agenda as written. Ayes: Ayton, Brown, Hudson, Jackson, Keller, Reeve, Welch and White. Nays: None. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Denny White and seconded by Barbara Welch to accept June 2, 2014 minutes as written. Ayes: Ayton, Brown, Hudson, Jackson, Keller, Reeve, Welch and White. Nays: None. The motion passed.

Chairman Brown opened the public hearing section of the meeting at 7:02 PM., for the purpose of discussing the rezoning of South County Road 203 from R-1 Single-Family Residential to C-1 Commercial, to enable the installation of a telecommunications antenna and tower. Several persons came before the commission to speak regarding the proposal:

Scott Goble, Verizon Representative, gave a description of the proposed tower:

- 150 foot in height
- Monopole type tower-no guy wires
- Would also require the building of a small structure to house telecommunication equipment.

The entire area (tower and building would be enclosed by a fence. Mr. Goble also stated that they were willing to move the tower from proposed area to meet any city standards required.

Jeff Goldammer – 5328 East 25th Street was concerned about the drainage ditch back of his property-water drains across his property now-would this building activity make the situation worse? Wondered if it could be approved for just the section of proposed building rather than the whole ten acres.

Mike Steele – 2502 South Eastwood was also concerned about drainage issue.

Evelyn Steele was also concerned about the whole section (10 acres) being zoned commercial.

Bryan Osborn – 2325 Eastland Street was concerned about the closeness of the proposed tower to his property (150'). He asked if it could be moved to a farther section of the ten acres. He was also concerned about the whole 10 acres being zoned commercial. He also reported that solid waste was being dumped on the 10 acres and wondered if this would be removed.

Commissioner George Reeve said that he opposed the construction, as there were too many towers as it is. Also concerned about health issues related to towers.

Lisa Daugherty, City Council member, wanted to know where she could find documentation regarding the health issues and towers.

Ellen Stehly – 5312 East 24th Street was concerned about the whole ten acres being zoned commercial. Wondered about water runoff and whether other businesses would follow. She asked how many trees would be taken down, which could add to water runoff.

Commissioner Barbara Welch member wanted to see a new drawing showing the tower being 200 feet away from Bryan Osborn's house.

Chairman Brown closed the public hearing section of the meeting at 7:47 PM

Recommendation: Mike Talley, City Attorney, said that he thought that the City would be able to rezone just the leased area rather than the whole ten acres. He also mentioned that the state legislature passed a bill that would restrict power of local entities from regulating cell towers. The commission might consider moving on this issue now.

A motion was made by Denny White to recommend to the City Council to rezone an area 100' x 100' and move the tower location to be no less than 200' from any property with plans to be redrawn before City Council approval. Ken Ayton seconded the motion. Ayes: Ayton, Brown, Welch and White. Nays: Hudson, Jackson, Keller, Reeve. The vote being tied, the motion was not passed.

The next meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission is scheduled for August 4, 2014 at 7:00 PM.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Denny White and seconded by George Reeve. Ayes: Ayton, Brown, Hudson, Jackson, Keller, Reeve, Welch and White. Nays: None. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Ayton, Secretary