**Garfield Township Planning Commission**

Special Meeting-Final

3/4/2025 - 6:30PM

Garfield Township Hall

1138 West Erickson Rd.

Linwood, MI 48634

1. Meeting called to order by: Amy Bromberg @ 6:30
2. Pledge Recited
3. Roll Call:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Present | Absent |
| Gregory Jacobs |  |  |
| Katie Anschutz |  |  |
| Amy Bromberg |  |  |
| Sally Lewis |  |  |
| Kent Rugenstein |  |  |
| Tom Gradowski |  |  |

1. Attendance: 11
2. Presentation
   1. Ryan Striff with Powder River Development Services LLC for Tag Towers
      1. 255 ft cell tower
      2. Addressing a gap in coverage for cell service
      3. Minimum of 4 Wireless Carriers
      4. Setbacks equal to height of tower
         1. If it falls, it will collapse on itself.
      5. Not in wetlands or a flood zone
      6. Coverage map shows enhanced coverage for the surrounding area
3. Motion to **open** **public comment**
   1. Motion to open by: Amy Bromberg
   2. Motion supported by: Kent Rugenstein
4. Public comments:
   1. Don’t have a property map to see where the tower is located
   2. Concerned about if it falls
      1. Designed to collapse on itself
         1. Certain breakpoints within the legs of the tower.
   3. Property Lines (73’ x 73’ area that is fenced off)
      1. 607 ft from East property line
      2. 331 ft from North property line
      3. 200 ft from South property line
      4. 679 ft from West property line
   4. Wetlands
      1. Went through application process to verify it isn’t in a designated wetland nor is it in a flood zone.
   5. Radiation from the tower?
      1. Follows FCC Guidelines
   6. All tenants within 300ft from property line received a letter.
   7. Is it just cellular?
      1. It depends on the provider.
      2. Verizon is one of the first that will attach to this tower
   8. Kathy Chomas wrote a letter: Opposed to the tower.
      1. Location is a concern- too close to homes
      2. Cell towers decrease property values
      3. Health Effects of prolonged exposure to cell towers
   9. Noise
      1. Typically, no noise
      2. Potentially a generator in moments of power outage
   10. Wildlife
       1. No studies to support either way
   11. Concerned about the outcome for future generations when it falls apart
       1. Bond required in the case of tower abandonment so township can remove the tower.
   12. Where does the tax money go from the tower
       1. General fund
   13. Maintenance Schedule
       1. 2-4 times per year
       2. Potentially more if they are adding or changing carriers
   14. Lights on the tower
       1. Will be lit
          1. FAA guidelines
             1. White strobe
             2. Red light
   15. Why do you have to build a road if it isn’t wetlands?
       1. The township doesn’t regulate wetlands
          1. This is regulated by the state and federal governments
   16. Who approves this?
       1. Planning Commission approves or denies the permit then it goes to the Township Board.
   17. Footings
       1. In very early stages of approval process.
       2. If approved, they submit detailed drawings to the township for the building permits.
   18. If the tower needs repairs, who pays for it?
       1. The tower company pays for it.
          1. Cell companies pay to be on the tower
       2. Not the taxpayers
5. Motion to **close** **public** **comment**
   1. Motion to close by: Amy Bromberg
   2. Motion supported by: Kent Rugenstein
6. Motion to **vote on approval of Special Use Permit:**
   1. Motion to vote by: Sally Lewis
   2. Motion supported by: Kent Rugenstein
7. Roll Call Vote

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Approve | Deny |
| Amy Bromberg |  |  |
| Sally Lewis |  |  |
| Kent Rugenstein |  |  |

1. Next meeting: 4/15/2025 @ 6:30PM (Pending Board Approval)
2. Motion to **adjourn** **meeting**:
   1. Motion to adjourn by: Sally Lewis
   2. Motion supported by: Kent Rugenstein
3. Meeting adjourned at: 7:21pm