

Notice of Public Meeting of the Technology Advisory Board
Official Minutes
Monday, August 19, 2019, 5:30 P.M. Room 118
City Hall 9101 Bonita Beach Rd. Bonita Springs, Florida 34135

		<u>TIME</u>	<u>INFO</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
I.	MEETING CALL TO ORDER	5:30			X
	Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m.				
II.	ROLL CALL	5:35			X
	<u>Present</u>		<u>Staff</u>		
	Jim Kauffman		Addison Smelko		
	Tim Deaton		Mike Gibson		
	Patrick Anderson		<u>Guest</u>		
	Vince Marchesani (via phone)		Alan Ruiz – Vertex Development		

III. PUBLIC COMMENT 5:40

Mr. Ruiz introduced himself and his company, Vertex Development, and thanked the Board for allowing him time to speak. Mr. Ruiz explained Vertex Development is a cell tower development company. They develop a tower that is capable of maintaining the equipment for all the wireless carriers for any particular market.

Mr. Ruiz stated his company is working on a project in the City of Bonita Springs located west of Imperial Parkway off Terry Street at the Vision Baptist Church. The City has a tower ordinance that stipulates that the tower cannot exceed 75 feet in height. Mr. Ruiz stated the issue is that typically carriers are looking for 80, 90 to 100 feet in height. Mr. Ruiz explained that by using shorter towers, you need more towers and use double the equipment, double the installation cost and paying contractors. They have AT&T and T-Mobile committed to the site. He is here to make a plea to the Board, as they are an advisory Board to City Council, to ask that Council take a good look at the unintended effects of the ordinance. Mr. Kauffman asked if he had written a one-page document on this topic. Mr. Ruiz stated no, but he could prepare something.

The Board discussed the importance of adequate cell coverage and reception in the City.

Dr. Marchesani suggests Mr. Ruiz provide a briefing paper with the following outlines:

- What is the issue
- Why is it important to the City of Bonita Springs
- Where does the City stand on this issue right now
- What is recommended

Dr. Marchesani advises that this should all be written on one sheet of paper designed to go to City Council.

Mr. Ruiz stated he understands what Dr. Marchesani is recommending, and will format the paper with the recommended outline.

Dr. Marchesani further recommends in the section titled “Why is it important to the City Bonita Springs, he may add in bold print

– “it will save lives”

Mr. Marchesani stated City Council is aware of the problem in some areas where the communications from the cell phone goes to Naples and sent back to Bonita Springs causing a delay of 3 to 4 minutes, which could be a life.

Mr. Ruiz will put together the briefing paper.

Mr. Gibson asked how 5G plays into it because 5G does not go on the taller towers. Mr. Ruiz explained the tall towers are macro towers and 5G will be deployed using micro sites. The micro sites work in conjunction with the macro sites. It densifies a given area.

Mr. Gibson stated he would endorse recommending the tower.

Mr. Ruiz stated they have submitted the zoning application for the special exception variance. Staff wrote a report reviewing the application that goes to the zoning board and then to Council.

Mr. Kauffman stated that the Board cannot vote on this, but they can endorse the request and asked if Councilman Gibson could share feedback from the Board with Council regarding this issue.

Mr. Kauffman asked Mr. Smelko to let them know when this item is rescheduled. The Zoning Board meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, September 17 at 9 a.m. and Monday, October 14 at 9 a.m.

IV.	MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2019	5:45	X
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The July 15, 2019 minutes were deferred until next meeting due to lack of a quorum.

V.	COUNCIL LIAISON ITEMS	6:00	
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Mr. Gibson stated the only thing he wanted to bring up was the tower because he has received calls. Mr. Kauffman asked if anyone was raising any issues. Mr. Gibson stated he has only received positive comments.

VI.	ADA CRAWLER TOOLS FOR WEBSITE	6:30	
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Mr. Smelko stated the City asked if the Board could look into and make any recommendations. They are looking to purchase some kind of crawler by the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Deaton had received some recommendations and thought he had sent the list to staff, but will email tonight.

VI. STAFF INFO & UPDATES 6:45 X

No staff updates.

VII. NEW BUSINESS 6:55 X

Mr. Deaton suggested it might be beneficial for each of the Advisory Boards to have a webpage. They might have more success getting interested people on the Boards. Mr. Deaton would like this on the agenda for next meeting.

Dr. Marchesani stated, regarding environmental issues on towers, his Ph. D. is in health and environment safety management so if anything comes up, the Board can run it by him.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS 7:05 X

No old business was discussed.

IX: NEXT MEETING X

The next meeting is scheduled for September 16. Mr. Kauffman cannot make the 16th so asked if the other Board members could make September 23. Consensus was to move the regularly scheduled meeting from September 16 to September 23, 2019.

X: ADJOURNMENT X

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Nadine Chiamonte, Office Assistant

APPROVED

TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY BOARD:

Date: 11/4/19

AUTHENTICATED:


Jim Kauffman, Chairman

If a person decides to appeal a decision made by the Council in any matter considered at this meeting/hearing, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, to include the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.