

**Minutes of the regular meeting of the Georgetown Township Planning Commission, held
Wednesday, February 17, 2021**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Samy at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Jessica Ulberg, Tim Smit, Jeannine Bolhouse, Donna Ferguson, Josiah Samy, Tom Healy,
Gary Veldink

Absent: None

Also present: Victor Vuong, Zoning Administrator

#210217-01 – Agenda for February 17, 2021

Moved by Gary Veldink, seconded by Jessica Ulberg, to approve the agenda as submitted.

Yeas: Jessica Ulberg, Tim Smit, Jeannine Bolhouse, Donna Ferguson, Josiah Samy, Tom Healy,
Gary Veldink

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#210217-02 – Minutes of the February 3, 2021 meeting

Moved by Gary Veldink, seconded by Donna Ferguson, to approve the minutes as presented.

Yeas: Jessica Ulberg, Tim Smit, Jeannine Bolhouse, Donna Ferguson, Josiah Samy, Gary
Veldink

Nays: None

Abstain: Tom Healy

MOTION CARRIED.

#210217-03 – (Public Hearing) (SUP2101) Kathie Hayes, Representative for AT&T, 6100 110th Street W, Bloomington, MN 55425, is requesting to have a Special Land Use permit to extend the height of an existing 120' cell tower to 180' with supporting ground equipment within a fenced area, under Sec. 8.3(O), on a parcel of land described as P.P. # 70-14-11-300-018, located at 8049 12th Ave, in a Low Density Residential (LDR) district, Georgetown Township, Ottawa County, Michigan.

Kathie Hayes, 6100 110th Street W, presented the request ([application](#), [site plan](#)).

The Zoning Administrator presented the [staff report](#).

Donna Ferguson asked about the reason to extend the tower.

Kathie Hayes said it's for proper coverage in the area since no other tower is within 2 miles.

Donna Ferguson asked if it's for cable, internet, etc.

Kathie Hayes said it's for all AT&T services.

Josiah Samy asked if the extra height poses any safety concerns such as being caused by weather.

Kathie Hayes said a structural analysis will be submitted with the Building Permit application.

Gary Veldink asked who the structural analysis will be filed with.

Kathie Hayes said it will be filed with Georgetown Township's Building Department (Professional Code Inspections).

Tim Smit asked why the extension is needed.

Kathie Hayes said they need the extra height for sufficient coverage.

Tom Healy said from his understanding, 5G is very directional and you can focus it, and because of that, it needs a higher elevation so it can target its sources. The higher the tower goes, it can get cleaner targets.

Tim Smit asked is it to get ready for 5G.

Kathie Hayes said yes, it's for better coverage and sight between other towers.

Jeannine Bolhouse asked, are the antennas being upgrade.

Kathie Hayes said there will be new antennas.

Tim Smit asked are the current antennas staying.

Kathie Hayes said yes.

The Chairperson opened the floor to public comments.

No one was present to make public comments.

The Chairperson closed the floor to public comments.

Moved by Donna Ferguson, seconded by Tim Smit, to adopt the staff report as finding of fact and to approve the Special Land Use permit (SUP2101) Kathie Hayes, Representative for AT&T, 6100 110th Street W, Bloomington, MN 55425, to have an extension of the height of an existing 120' cell tower by 60' to 180' with supporting ground equipment within a fenced area under Sec. 8.3(O), on a parcel of land described as P.P. # 70-14-11-300-018, located at 8049 12th Ave., in a Low Density Residential (LDR) district, Georgetown Township, Ottawa County, MI, based on the findings that all applicable standards of the ordinance have been met including the general Special Land Use standards in Sec. 20.3(A) and the specific standards in Sec. 20.4(AB); and to accept the site plan as provided; and with the following conditions of approval:

- 1. The property and building shall be maintained in a safe manner.**
- 2. The submission of a Building Zoning Compliance application and a Building Permit application shall be required prior to beginning the work of extending the existing tower or adding any supporting ground equipment within the fenced area.**

3. **The existing fence of six (6) feet in height shall remain, or if it is replaced in the future, shall be replaced with a fence in conformance with Sec. 20.4(AB) and all other applicable ordinance requirements.**
4. **The applicant and/or owner of the tower shall permit future users to share the newly extended tower facility.**

Tom Healy said the site plan has everything the Planning Commission needs and it's in an appropriate location, it's not in anyone's backyard. This plan is going to maximize the use of the tower. He fully supports the plan.

Tim Smit asked how high it can go.

Kathie Hayes said 195 feet based on Georgetown Township's Zoning Ordinance, but there are towers elsewhere that are as high as 350 feet.

Josiah Samy said all standards are met, he supports the plan.

Gary Veldink wanted to confirm the tower will be structurally capable of supporting the extension, but he supports plan.

Kathie Hayes said yes, a structural analysis will be submitted.

Yeas: Jessica Ulberg, Tim Smit, Jeannine Bolhouse, Donna Ferguson, Josiah Samy, Tom Healy, Gary Veldink

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Moved by Tim Smit, seconded by Donna Ferguson, to adopt the staff report as finding of fact and to approve the drawing, as presented.

Yeas: Jessica Ulberg, Tim Smit, Jeannine Bolhouse, Donna Ferguson, Josiah Samy, Tom Healy, Gary Veldink

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#210217-04 – Public Comment

No one was present to make public comments at this time.

#210217-05 – Other Business

There was no other business at this time.

#210217-06 – Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Yeas: Jessica Ulberg, Tim Smit, Jeannine Bolhouse, Donna Ferguson, Josiah Samy, Tom Healy,
Gary Veldink

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.