



CITY OF ALBANY  
HEARINGS BOARD

**MINUTES**

Thursday, February 6, 2020  
Council Chambers, City Hall  
Approved: June 11, 2020

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present

Cordell Post; Dala Rouse; Ann Ketter

Board Members Absent

None

Staff Present

Laura LaRoque, Planner III; David Martineau, Planning Manager; Jennifer Sullivan, Administrative Assistant

Others Present

Sharon Gretch, representing Smartlink

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3:59 p.m.

Commissioner Post moved to approve the September 12, 2019, Hearings Board minutes as presented. Chair Ketter seconded the motion, and it passed 3-0.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

3:59 p.m.

Business from the public

4:01 p.m.

None

CALL TO ORDER

4:02 p.m.

Chair Rouse called the hearing to order at 4:02 p.m.

Quasi-Judicial Public Hearing

4:02 p.m.

Land Use File CU-05-19; Smartlink; 1740 Geary Street SE

- *CU-05-19*: Condition Use to increase an existing 75-foot-tall wireless communication tower to 93 feet for collocation of new wireless communication equipment. The proposed antennas will be flush mounted to the pole and painted to match.

Declarations from the Board

4:02 p.m.

Commissioner's Ketter and Rouse both reported site visits in the form of driving by the location.

Staff Report

4:02 p.m.

Planning Manager David Martineau reviewed the hearing procedures.

Planner Laura LaRoque provided a verbal summary of CU-05-19 (the case) as well as provided a brief PowerPoint presentation. Staff proposed conditions of approval were included for the board's consideration (see agenda packet). The request is to increase the height of the monopole, add an equipment cabinet, and add a backup generator. LaRoque referenced the staff report and explained that the existing and proposed height satisfy with the setback standards of Albany Development Code 8.500(8) for Geary Street and Queen Avenue, but do not satisfy the minimum distance setback requirements to Oak Street. Design standards for setbacks went into place a year after the existing communication tower was approved. LaRoque also advised that Oak Street has been partially vacated and is not a through street and functions more like an internal travel aisle than a public street.

### Questions from the Commission

4:09 p.m.

Ketter asked how often the generator would be tested. LaRoque advised it would be tested once a month and during emergencies. The applicant was given the opportunity to respond during Testimony from the Applicant.

### Testimony from the Applicant

4:09 p.m.

Sharon Gretch with SmartLink, on behalf of AT&T wireless, provided a verbal overview of the project. Gretch referenced the site as an Eligible Facilities Request for a Minor Modification (see application in agenda) which indicates that under the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 any request for a collocation that meets the standards in 64.09 is allowed to be reviewed by local jurisdiction but cannot be denied. Monthly testing will take about five minutes during daytime hours. Otherwise the generator is only run during an emergency.

***Chair Rouse closed the hearing at 4:12.***

### Staff Response

4:12 p.m.

None.

### Motion

4:12 p.m.

Commissioner Post moved to approve land use case CU-05-19 as conditioned on page 12 of the staff report. Chair Ketter seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

### NEXT MEETING DATE

4:13 p.m.

To be determined.

### ADJOURNMENT

4:14 p.m.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:14.

Respectfully submitted,

*Signature on File*

Jennifer Sullivan  
Administrative Assistant

Reviewed by,

*Signature on File*

David Martineau  
Planning Manager