



TOWN OF VERNON FIRE DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 54 Vernon, CT 06066 Ofc: 860-871-7468 Fax 872-4952
Please visit us at www.vernonfire.com

October 15, 2008

Present: Art Beirn, Bill Call, Bill Campbell, Diane Carpenter, Hal Cummings, Steve Eppler, Jack Fisher, Marie Herbst, Jim Kenny, Jim Luddecke

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by Fire Chief William Call. The purpose of this meeting was to review the Box Mountain & Fox Hill Cell Tower status since the August 27th meeting.

Hal Cummings informed that his search revealed that the proposed site @ Box Mountain is designated as open space. Other land owned by the town identified is not likely feasible for the tower in the areas of Valley Falls Pond and Boulder Crest neighborhoods. It was discussed that we may need to go to the State and request a law be passed for use of this area.

Marie Herbst felt that going through the State Legislature and urging the need for this project in the interest of public safety and state homeland security would help obtain the clearance needed. It was further discussed that we request a Bill or attach to another Bill if they agree for us to pursue. If they agree, we would then bring to the Town Council with the complete package.

Our plan should be put together a committee report that includes specs with communication needs and survey & GIS maps that ultimately can be provided to all interested parties.

Hal Cummings noted that CT Statute requires referral from Planning/Zoning. He doesn't foresee a problem in obtaining.

A site walk through with a surveyor is urgently needed to identify a suitable location for the Box Mountain Tower. We need to determine where the town land boundary is located as quarry digging is active around the proposed area. Exact coordinates will be needed by the vendors. There will be issues if the quarry activity is on town owned land and some discussion was held as to what would be done if this is the case. Hal Cummings will schedule engineer & surveyor for site review the week of 10/20/08. An email will follow with the date for any committee members to attend if desired.

A request for interest was sent out on 9/15/2008 to twenty-eight (28) mobile tower vendors. It presented basic requirements and solicited vendors with serious interest in Vernon's project. Eight (8) letters were returned as undeliverable. Letters of interest were received from the following companies:

- Marcus Communications
- Verizon Wireless
- MCM, Inc.
- Optasite Towers LLC
- Unison Sites
- American Tower

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Vernon Police Dept. needs were reviewed with Chief Kenny. The expense for materials is approx. \$90,000 for police communications. NECS will be contacted by Chief Kenny for propagation study.

Next steps to include scheduling of survey, resolution of the open space issues, zoning cap for tower height.

The next meeting has been scheduled for November 5th at 7:00, Vernon Public Safety Complex.

The meeting concluded at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter, Secretary