

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

THE BOROUGH OF SEA GIRT
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE SEA GIRT PLANNING BOARD
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2010

A Regular meeting of the Sea Girt Planning Board was held in the Sea Girt Elementary School on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 7:30 pm. Notice of the time, date and place of the meeting was transmitted to all members and proper notice had been published in accordance with the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Law".

After the Salute to the Flag, roll call was taken and the following members were present:

Coun. Raymond Bogan
Larry Benson
Susan Boriotti
Karen Brisben

Coun. Ken Farrell
Donald Laws
Michael Mastrocola
Kathryn Matthews
Christopher Randazzo

Absent: Paul Cerami, Norman Hall

Scott Thompson, Board Attorney, was also present for the meeting as well as Sandra Sears, Administrative Board Secretary; Board member Karen Brisben recorded the Minutes. There were 4 people in the audience.

Vice-Chairman Benson asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the January 20, 2010 meeting. This motion was made by Councilman Bogan, seconded by Mr. Laws and unanimously approved, all aye.

PRESENTATION:

The only business this evening was a presentation from Alan Cameron, General Manager - Global Services of NextWave Wireless, Las Vegas, Nevada.

He was introduced by School Superintendent Stephen LaValva who explained that this is the company that subleases from the company that allowed the school to build the new addition the Board was meeting this evening for communications. Mr. Thompson explained to the Board this was a courtesy meeting only, the Board has no right to make changes but can make suggestions.

Mr. Cameron then came forward said he will give an overview, through Power Point, of the Education Broadband Service (known as EBS) that Sea Girt School leases, he also will explain the licenses and what they are proposing which will require a small antenna on the roof of the school.

The license was conveyed a number of years ago to the school. As a condition of license renewal, the FCC requires that there is an "Education Broadband Service" and this has to be in place by May of 2011; this means they have to put in some type of service and they plan a wi-fi service as well as meeting the requirement that they have to carry educational type services for the students, faculty and staff, whether video or data & this MUST be done in order to retain the license.

Councilman Bogan asked how long it will take to complete this and Mr. Cameron said the design, then procurement of the equipment and then implementation should take about 3-4 months, then they will file with the FCC.

Mr. Thompson asked if the FCC will send someone to inspect this and Mr. Cameron said no, however, they do sample some of the businesses, about 5%. Mr. Randazzo asked about the cost and Mr. LaValva answered stating it changes from year to year, right now the monthly fee goes from \$10,000. They have a 30 year agreement with NextWave right now. Mr. Randazzo felt that when they first got this license they knew about this deadline and questioned the urgency now and why this was not done prior to this milestone coming up.

Mr. Cameron explained that they are a technology company only, building chips and software and they wanted to partner with another operator for servicing and go national, however, then came the economic downturn and

the operators pulled out; they have been looking for another partner but had to contact Mr. LaValva about 4–6 months ago and are now just trying to save the license.

Mr. Randazzo asked if this will make money down the road and Mr. Cameron said their plan was to provide equipment and the operators would provide the service, they have people to help build the network, that was the business plan.

Councilman Bogan asked if they can use another service other than the EBS (Education Broadband Spectrum) and was told yes, they can do a BRS1 which is more commercial as well as the EBS, they can use fixed type services or a mobile site.

Mr. Benson asked about the receiving transmitter and Mr. Cameron said there will be a transmitter and receiver. As this was an informal presentation, the audience was allowed to participate and Virginia Clemmensen, who was in the audience, asked if this antenna will give wi-fi service to a whole area. Mr. Cameron showed a map of the area involved which will be all around the school property. He said there will be 4 channels and it can cover a large area if needed, but the architecture here will be just for the Sea Girt School area, the antenna will only be about 4 feet high, about 12 feet total with the base and will be located on the roof. The EBS signal will be indoors and outdoors on the school campus but will be controlled inside the ceiling. Mrs. Clemmensen asked if the staff will be able to use wireless phones through this system and Mr. Cameron said “possibly”, but they would have to put in a system to support this, a “voice override system” and that is not planned for this service.

He then explained the elements – the antenna itself, the cable that connects this to the amplifier on the roof and then the connection to the indoor controller that will be in this room, the IT room. The service will be used to add or change services and there will be a router to send the information out. They plan to attach a cable to the wall by the roof at the gym and he showed a photo image of this. Mrs. Clemmensen asked if this will be safe from lightening and Mr. Cameron said yes, it will have built-in lightening rods, this is a must. Mrs.

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Brisben questioned the lack of security around the antenna, but Mr. Cameron said this will be on the roof and they did not anticipate any vandalism due to its location up high.

He then explained the coverage will be minimal as this antenna will be low but it will give a good signal strength to the school. Mr. Randazzo asked about maintenance and Mr. Cameron said they are going to watch it from their network station and have spares for the system. Mr. Randazzo then asked how big the controller is and Mr. Cameron said it is not that large, it works like a server and can work in regular temperatures up to 90 degrees. Mr. LaValva said they have a space and a cool environment for this. Mr. Randazzo asked once you get this working, what does it do for Sea Girt School and Mr. LaValva said it gives wireless service to the students.

Mr. Cameron added you would need a "key" to be able to access the system but it is possible for use by the public. Mr. Mastrocola asked about any associated health risks and the answer was no, this has been measured by the FCC and it is safe, it is a wi-fi system that is lower wattage. Mr. Benson noted that Sea Girt Police have a very low system and Mr. Cameron said their system is higher than this one, the most you can crank up the unit is 4 watts and said if there were a lot of these around town they would work off each other.

As this was the end of the presentation and there were no further questions, Councilman Bogan spoke for the Board and thanked Mr. Cameron for an informative meeting.

As there was no other business to come before the Board a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Bogan, seconded by Mr. Laws and unanimously approved, all aye. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Approved: