

Town of Sherman  
Board of Selectmen  
Special Meeting  
October 24, 2013

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**Members Present: First Selectman C. Cope, Selectman A. O'Connor, Selectman C. Jellen**

**Also Present:** Zoning Chairman Barbara Ackerman & Vice Chairman Ted Hollander, David Hopkins, Veronica Scheer

I Call to Order

First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order at 9:08 a.m.

II Agenda

To consult with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the status of the AT&T communications tower proposal at Coote Hill.

III Discussion

- A. Site Location & Town Meeting: Barbara Ackerman noted that the application is at the second stage, and it will be going to Siting Council. This raises areas of concern P&Z has regarding town preference for the site and if the town should have the opportunity to address the issue of preference. P&Z believes the town needs to be told of the possible site locations (Coote Hill, Tower Hill, and Wagon Wheel) to determine if there is a municipal preference. This would be done via Town Meeting. Selectman Jellen noted that Naromi hasn't formally voted, and they won't until they assess the town feeling. P&Z has not heard from Naromi on the issue. AT&T is in communication with the land trust. David Hopkins noted it would be important to know the tower size prior to a Town Meeting. Barbara Ackerman noted that with Coote Hill, tower size doesn't have to be specified as is the case with Naromi. Speculations as to outcomes if each site was picked were discussed. The conclusion is that the speculations are clear only if AT&T walks the site and decides to approve Naromi. If they don't, AT&T will file an application for Coote Hill, and then the town has to consider that.
- B. Town Representation: Both Barbara Ackerman and Selectman O'Connor agreed that the Town must have representation before Siting Council, and ultimately all present concur. Both the type of attorney to use and the cost were discussed, with the conclusion being there are benefits to using a Land Use Attorney. Barbara Ackerman will delve into ascertaining the approximate budget for the attorney and what type of work they will do. How to finance the attorney was discussed, and the cost of an attorney is a necessary expense, even if it goes beyond the budget for legal expenses. This may be a cost that needs to be taken to Town Meeting. Veronica Scheer points out dates and deadlines

pertaining to a Town Public Hearing, as per Connecticut Siting Council, Application Guide for COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION AND TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES, dated July 2012.

- C. Actions to be taken: Both a site walk and whether or not the Town is ‘invited’ on a walk were discussed. First Selectman C. Cope will reach out to Chris Fisher at Cuddy Feder regarding the scheduling of a walk. First Selectman C. Cope will also see what additional information he can garner from AT&T and Naromi. The Town Preference is the first thing that must be determined.

### III Adjournment

There was no motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting concluded at 9:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Laura J. Pettinato  
October 27, 2013

APPROVED at BOS Meeting of 11/ /13

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First Selectman C. Cope

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Selectman A. O’Connor

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Selectman C. Jellen