

Gallatin Planning Board
667 CR 7, Gallatin NY 12567
Meeting Minutes

ACCEPTED

January 24, 2022

Attending: Chairman Terry Porter, Kimberly Yambrick, Larry Brody, Michael L. Porter, Councilperson Dan Quinn, Supervisor John Reilly, members of the public, Harry Franklin and Deborah Maine, Robert Lopez – Director of 911, Deputy Director of Emergency Management, Columbia County, and a colleague, Chris Achtschin, all via Zoom

Chairman Porter called the January 24, 2022, GPB meeting to order at 7:00pm

Bruce Humphries was warmly remembered for his 16 years of service on the Gallatin Planning Board.

Robert Lopez presented a plan for Columbia County to build a 190' self-supporting communications tower at County Property located at the Gallatin Transfer Station, 2180 Route 82. Primary use for the Tower is Public Safety (EMS, FIRE, POLICE, DPW, RACES/ARES(Ham) for the Town of Gallatin. It is for the 5 Fire Departments that cover the Town of Gallatin, 4 EMS Agencies, and Police both the Sheriff's Office and New York State Police. They will also build-out County Highway and, with the Town of Gallatin Highway Dept., accommodate their Highway Base and Antenna to help them as well. Terry reviewed Section 5.12 COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES AND/OR PERSONAL WIRELESS SERVICE FACILITIES AND/OR TOWERS ("PWSF") of the Gallatin Zoning Law. Terry pointed out that a minimum lot size of 5 acres is required. While the County parcel is about 4 acres, the County also owns the access road parcel and felt that the GPB could consider the aggregate area of the two parcels to meet the minimum lot size. The proposed site for the tower does not meet minimum setbacks required by the Zoning Law, so the tower could not be approved as sited. Alternative site on the property would need to be considered. With the proximity to another Communications Tower directly across Route 82 on Wilbur Hill Road, there is concern that there might be other sites available for the County's tower. Mr. Lopez assured the Board that all other possibilities had been considered and that this site is the best location. Terry asked if the County planned to cite immunity from the Gallatin Zoning Law as the facility is considered necessary for public safety. Mr. Lopez was not sure, but proposed consulting with the County's attorney to make a determination. Mr. Lopez asked if it might be possible to have a special meeting once this determination had been made. It was agreed that if needed, the GPB would hold a special meeting in effort to move this action along expeditiously.

Draft Minutes from the November 22, 2021, meeting were reviewed. Terry made a motion to accept the minutes, Larry 2nd All were in favor

With no other business to discuss, Terry made a motion to adjourn at 7:45pm. Kim 2nd. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Porter, Chairman