CITY OF ESCONDIDO

ACTION MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ESCONDIDO PLANNING COMMISSION

July 23, 2019

The meeting of the Escondido Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Spann, in the City Council Chambers, 201 North Broadway, Escondido, California.

Commissioners present: James Spann, Chairman; Don Romo, Vice-Chair; Michael Cohen, Commissioner; Joe Garcia, Commissioner; James McNair, Commissioner; Mark Watson, Commissioner; and Stan Weiler, Commissioner.

Commissioners absent: None.

Staff present: Mike Strong, Assistant Planning Director; Elizabeth Lopez, Associate Engineer; Adam Phillips, Senior Deputy City Attorney; Adam Finestone, Principal Planner; Paul Bingham, Assistant Planner II; and Kirsten Peraino, Minutes Clerk.

MINUTES:

Moved by Commissioner Weiler, seconded by Commissioner Watson to approve the Action Minutes of the June 25, 2019 meeting. Motion carried (6-0-1). Ayes: Cohen, Garcia, Romo, Spann, Watson and Weiler. Noes: None. Abstained: McNair; Absent: None

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: – Received.

FUTURE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS: – None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: – None.
PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. ZONING CODE AMENDMENT – AZ 19-0001 [Continued from June 25, 2019]:

REQUEST: A proposed amendment to Article 34 (Communication Antennas Ordinance) of the Escondido Zoning Code to update the requirements for wireless communication facilities within the right-of-way. The amendment includes an update to the entitlement process to streamline deployment of 5G networks and simplified language to be consistent with Federal Communications Commission Order. The proposal also includes new guidelines for wireless communications facilities in the right-of-way, as well as the environmental determination prepared for the project. No development project is proposed.

PROPERTY SIZE AND LOCATION: Citywide

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: Exemption under the General Rule, CEQA Section 15061(b)(3).

PUBLIC SPEAKERS: None.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by Commissioner Weiler, seconded by Commissioner Cohen to approve the staff’s request for a continuance to a future date. Motion carried unanimously (7-0-0).

2. CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT – PHG 18-0016:

REQUEST: A Conditional Use Permit to install a wireless communications facility consisting of 12 panel antennas, 12 remote radio units, and one microwave dish antenna, concealed within a new 40-foot tall stealth mono-pine, and associated ground-mounted mechanical within a 12' x 20' CMU block enclosure in the R-1-10 (Single Family Residential, 10,000 SF minimum lot size) zone. The proposal also includes the adoption of the environmental determination prepared for the project.

PROPERTY SIZE AND LOCATION: A 4.52 acre site located on both sides of East El Norte Parkway between East Tangelo Place and Sungold Way, addressed as 2534 East El Norte Parkway (APN 225-270-63-00).
ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: The proposed project is categorically exempt from environmental review in conformance with CEQA Section 15303, "New Construction of Small Structures."

PUBLIC SPEAKERS:

  Kerrigan Diehl, Plancom, Inc., Applicant for the project, available for questions
  Brian Wilson, spoke in favor of the project.
  Christina King, spoke in opposition to the project.
  Mike Hendel, spoke in opposition to the project.
  Andre White, spoke in opposition to the project.
  Rosalie McC Chesney, spoke in opposition to the project.
  Lisa Brown, spoke in opposition to the project.
  Gail McMorrnan, owner of the AirX business.

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS

The Commissioners discussed various aspects of the project.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by Commissioner McNair, seconded by Commissioner Weiler to approve the staff recommendation. Motion carried (5-2-0). Ayes: Cohen, McNair, Romo, Spann, and Weiler. Noes: Garcia and Watson. Absent: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Spann adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13, 2019 in the City Council Chambers, 201 North Broadway Escondido, California.

Mike Strong, Secretary to the
Escondido Planning Commission

Kirsten Peraino, Minutes Clerk