1	Kensington Planning Board and Zoning Board Joint Meeting
2	Minutes
3	February 15, 2023
4	1 columny 15, 2025
5	Place: Kensington Town Hall 95 Amesbury Road
6	Planning Board Members Present: Vanessa Rozier- Chair, Marty Silvia, Bob
7	Solomon- Ex-officio, Glenn Greenwood- Town Planner; Mary Smith- Vice Chair, Justin
8	McLane.
9	Zoning Board Members Present: Michael Schwotzer, Chair, Bill Ford, Joan Skewes,
10	Therese Wallaga, Mark Craig-enter the meeting at 6:55pm
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12 13	Public Attendance- 23
14	Opening:
15	Mrs. Rozier called meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and explained the process of the joint
16	meeting.
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18	General Presentation:
19	Applicant M. Dinicola for permit to approve Vertex towers at 70 Moulton Ridge Rd. Map
20	10 Lot 1 Francis Parisi representing Vertex gave an in-depth presentation on the project.
21	See addendum A.
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23	V. Rozier- Opened up the meeting to the Board of Adjustment and noted there would be
24	an option for public input during the public hearings.
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26	M. Schwotzer- Introduced board; B. Ford, J. Skewes, T. Wallaga, Alternate
27	4 permanent members and an alternate.
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29	MOTION:
30	M. Schwotzer made a motion to approve T. Wallaga to sit as a full board member to
31	replace J. Bunnell for the evening. Second by J. Skewes and all in favor.
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33	Vertex Towers representing Marybeth Dinicola of 75 Moulton Ridge Road.
34	The applicant is requesting that the ZBA grant a variance to Article V Section
35	5.1.5.2 to allow for construction of a Telecommunications Facility in the
36	Re <mark>si</mark> dential/Agricultural zone.
37	MOTION
38	MOTION Mr. Sabayatzan mada a matian ta anan nyalia haarina
39 40	Mr. Schwotzer made a motion to open public hearing.
40	M. Sahwatzar brought the application peaket provided by the applicant to the attention of
41 42	M. Schwotzer brought the application packet provided by the applicant to the attention of
42 43	the zoning board members, and explained to the public that they would review the variance criteria to see if the proposed use could be allowed in the residential/agricultural
43 44	district.
45	The board started with the variance criteria.
7.5	The court buried with the variation effective.

- 1) The application would not be contrary to the public interest, due to the increased cell coverage in the area.
 - 2) Would the spirit of the ordinance be observed.

- a) J. Skewes questioned if the tower could be viewed from abutters land.
- b) The representative was unsure where it will be visible from due to the topography and tree height, as well as the foliage of the trees. The board accepted questions from the public.
- c) Lynne Monroe- 5 Hobbs Rd.- walked the site in the morning. She showed the representative a picture of the tree line and they stated that the tower would not be above that. (The picture was not shown to the board)
- d) Mary Rezendes Brown-66 Moulton Ridge Rd- she is concerned about the environment and that land is in conservation surrounding the project location. She would like to work with the company so that less of the tower is seen from her property.
- e) M. Schwotzer asked if the land would be leased, and it was explained that it is and that the lease is a private agreement and not viewable by the public.
- f) c. Karen Martell- North Haverhill Road- she is an abutter and asked for a balloon test so that everyone can see how high the tower will be.
- 3) The board continued the checklist and agreed that the spirit of the ordinance would be observed. no objections from the board members.
- 4) Substantial Justice- The proposed location is designed to mitigate the visual impact of abutters. So substantial justice would be done if approved.
 - a) J. Skewes stated that they are trying to minimize the impact to the abutters. B. Ford stated that they are trying to keep the tower as low as possible.
- 5) Value of surrounding properties no evidence from the public to support that it would diminish the surrounding properties values.
 - a) Not granting the variance would result in Unnecessary Hardship because-
 - b) This is a restrictive ordinance and due to the lack of other locations in the town, this location was selected. The representative explained that they chose this location for the need of service in the area.
 - i) Sarah Horn-268 North Haverhill Road- questions related to service and other issues that would be something that the planning board will deal with.
 - (1) She asked if the commercial zone had been exhausted for areas to put the tower. M. Schwotzer explained that the commercial zone is very limited in Kensington. She asked about the coverage and if the tower that has been approved for Rosencrantz could extend the coverage so that it will work with Exeter instead of putting in another tower.
 - F. Parisi explained that you cannot turn up the coverage on one tower because it is regulated.
 - She stated that the regulations are there for a reason. She was concerned that this would set a precedence but it was explained that each application is taken individually.
 - ii) Patricia DeCaprio-31Osgood Road- Brought the board some information on the safety issues surrounding towers. The board looked through the information provided. J. Skewes stated that all phone users would be exposed

- according to the information provided. M. Schwotzer stated that the board will share with the planning board. No comments.
 - iii) Ami Delgado- 5 Hoosac Road-explained that she believes that the board should take into consideration the health issues and environmental impact.
 - iv) K. Martel- 285 North Haverhill Road- believes that there are other spots that the tower can be constructed.
 - v) A. Delgado- 5 Hoosac Road- she believes that Moulton Ridge already has good service. M. Schwotzer stated that the question is should this be constructed in a residential zone.
 - vi) Peter Sawyer- 50 Moulton Ridge Road-asked the size of the lot, and it was explained that it was a approximately a 60x60 area.
 - vii) Peter Merrill- 275 North Haverhill Road- asked if the size of the leased area is a small section or a large one does that matter with this application? M. Schwotzer stated that the applicant has presented specific aspects of the application and they are meeting the criteria.
 - viii) M. Craig asked about generators and the space, they are not planning to use a generator.
 - ix) L. Monroe stated that the visual analysis will be part of the later information to be supplied by the applicant.
 - x) A. Smith- 63 Moulton Ridge Road- was concerned with being able to sell her property with a tower located on that lot.
 - xi) K. Martel- stated that she had an appraisal done because of another tower in East Kingston that was put in and her value would go down with the tower in the area. M. Schwotzer explained that for that criteria to fail there needs to be specific evidence provided to the board on this particular application and the reduction of value due to the tower.
 - xii) S. Horn-indicated that due to the fact that they only had 3 weeks to know about this application would the board allow them to do their research about values. J. Skewes stated that it is an issue that has been raised and the board should consider it and continued that the board would need the information to be from an appraiser. M. Schwotzer explained that the information would need to be back to the board before the next planning board meeting in March.
 - J. Skewes stated that the public is asking for the opportunity to provide information and they need to consider allowing that. B. Ford would like to determine the criteria that they will be looking for. The board discussed that a qualified appraiser needs to review the information and give written comments to the board. J. McLane, from the planning board, asked if the other side of the situation is being evaluated and how might this increase the values of the surrounding homes. How does the board determine what the matrix is for how this will affect the community negatively or positively. (ex. If five people are negatively affected would that negate the 100 people that are positively affected.) M. Schwotzer explained that the applicant will probably provide the board with the positives of the application as well.
 - a) P. DeCaprio- wanted to be sure that the board looked into the health effects.
 - b) P. Merrill- stated that he is in a deadzone but he has cable and the cell phone works off of his WIFI.

c) Paul Bonani- 75 Moulton Ridge Road- he agrees that there is a benefit that is not being discussed. He would caution the board about reviewing health data that has not been researched and to make sure that they know the source of the data. The WIFI is great but the cellular is not and he works from home and that would give him another avenue for his teaching from home.

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F. Parisi stated that the Fire Chief has given them a letter stating that the cellular service in that area is a safety concern. He cautioned the board before reviewing health issues that the board may want to consult their legal counsel. He stated that the law is very clear that they cannot make their decision on health-related issues.

M. Schwotzer asked if the board wanted to continue the hearing until March 15, 2023, at 6:30pm. J. Skewes stated it would be a qualified appraiser to evaluate the application and specific properties to see if the values would be diminished.

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MOTION:

B. Ford made a motion to continue the public hearing for Vertex until March 15, 2023, at 6:30pm, J. Skewes seconded, all in favor.

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The board asked the public to turn any real estate values to Kathleen before the meeting. B. Ford asked if there was anything else that this board would be dealing with at the next meeting. The board agreed that they are not dealing with anything health related, they are only dealing with the values. All other criteria has been discussed.

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M. Schwotzer reiterated that the Zoning Board of Adjustment hearing will be continued until March 15, 2023, at 6:30pm.

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The Planning Board Chair V. Rozier stated that since the zoning board has not made a motion, they will not be hearing the application tonight. F. Parisi stated that his application is complete and would like the board to hear his presentation tonight.

G. Greenwood stated that they cannot hear an application that is not in compliance with the zoning ordinance. The variance is needed before the planning board can state that the

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V. Rozier explained that the board has decided that the board will not be holding the hearing tonight.

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- The applicant stated that he would like to do the balloon test and the date and times below would be what works best for the representative and the planning board.
- 175 Saturday March 4, 2023 or Sunday March 5th, 2023 from 9:00am to 12:00pm.
- 176 The second weekend if the first two dates do not work will be on
- 177 Saturday March 11, 2023 or Sunday March 12, 2023 from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

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MOTION:

application is complete.

180 B. Ford made a motion to adjourn at 8:29pm, seconded by J. Skewes, all in favor.

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V. Rozier explained that they would continue with the remaining planning board 182 business. 183 184 185 **MOTION:** J. McLane made a motion to continue the application for Vertex Tower LLC to 186 March 15, 2023 at 6:30pm, seconded by M. Smith, all in favor. 187 188 V. Rozier explained that their next workshop is March 1, 2023 and wanted to know what 189 the board wanted to do about the workshop. The board decided to cancel the workshop 190 on the 1st of March. 191 192 Next regular meeting will be March 15, 2023. J. McLane will miss that meeting. 193 Kathleen and V. Rozier will make sure of a quorum before the meeting. 194 195 No updates on prior business or the Master Plan. 196 197 Minutes from January 18, 2023, were reviewed. 198 199 **MOTION:** 200 J. McLane motioned to approve the meeting minutes from January 18, 2023, 201 seconded by M. Smith, all in favor. 202 203 204 Kathleen informed the board that the zoning board just approved an application for Stacey Tree Service LLC on 149 South Road, she just wanted to let them know about the 205 206 upcoming application. She will post the Unitil notice of the public hearing in the paper 207 and send out post cards to the residents on the roads. There will also be a lot merger for Map 4 Lot 7-1 and Map 4 Lot 5 both with the same ownership at the March meeting. 208 209 The board decided to start the meeting early at 6:00pm on March 15, 2023, in order to 210 incorporate the two applications waiting to be heard by the board. The Vertex 211 application will be heard at 6:30pm. 212 213 M. Smith asked if there were any updates on the 152 Drinkwater Road project and there 214 was not anything outstanding on that project for the board to discuss. 215 216 217 V. Rozier motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:43pm, seconded by M. Silvia, all in 218 favor.

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220 Respectfully Submitted,

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222 Kathleen T Felch, Town Administrator