

**HYDE PARK PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 20, 2013**

*All minutes are draft until approved by the planning commission;  
please check future minutes for the approval of these minutes.*

Members Present: Greg Paus, Chair (GP); Vicki Emerson (VE), Dan Young (DY) and Kevin Fitzgerald (KF)  
Members Absent: One vacancy  
Staff: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator (RR)  
Guests: Roger Marcoux, Sheriff Lamoille County Sheriff Department; Scott Keyes, Barr & Associates; Carol Robertson, Village of Hyde Park General Manager; Roger Audet, North Hyde Park/Eden Fire Department; Brian Jones, Hyde Park Selectboard.

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GP opened the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

1. **Welcome and Public Comment** – No public comment received.
2. **LCSO and Harvey Tower Proposal** – Marcoux reviewed the proposal to add a 2" diameter monopole whip antennae to the top of the former wind tower on Ken Harvey's parcel on Route 100. Scott Keyes noted that the project is to add only one whip antennae for public safety use onto the existing 100' tower for a total of 120'. Mr. Keyes noted that the Hyde Park Selectboard recently provided support for this project. Mr. Keyes reported that LCSO will be providing the Public Service Board (PSB) required 45-day notice prior to formal application submittal to the PSB. Marcoux stated that the Harvey location is best for LCSO as compared to the proposed 90' tower on the Lanphear parcel. Greg Paus read the town plan regarding the Harvey tower location; in particular, towers should not be within view of Route 100 or screened from view at the edge of a forested area – however this project is very visible from Route 100. Brian Jones stated that having just the tower and a whip will not create a significant impact, and will improve public safety communications, noting that although the tower is close to Route 100 it is partially screened. Roger advised that the improvement to public safety communications merit some consideration given the problems that emergency responders have had with radio communications in Hyde Park. Roger noted that this proposal will hopefully go smoother than the Garfield tower project. GP stated that the Commission will respond after reviewing the complete application.
3. **VTel Lanphear Tower Proposal** – GP stated that public comments were received from Jim Grant in an email dated November 19, 2013. Grant asked that a balloon test at the new location be conducted and that the applicant provide additional proving the tower is needed and how it will benefit Hyde Park. Jay Cooke also provided email comments asking for a balloon test. Art Gardiner submitted an email concurring with Jim Grant's comments. The PC reviewed the application provided by VTel and noted that the proposed overhead power and telephone from Webster Road would be located along an undeveloped ridge with up to 8 new poles. Brian Jones said that the location is in a much better spot and away from neighbors. The Commission's concerns were that the new site should have a balloon test and the new location should be serviced by underground utilities, possibly directly from the barn's electric service instead of from Webster Road. If overhead poles were allowed, then a route along the proposed service road from Route 100 would result in fewer poles crossing the field and reducing the negative scenic impact for travelers along VT 100. Motion by VE to authorize GP to sign a letter on behalf of the Commission. Seconded by DY. Discussion: GP will email the draft for review before signing. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
4. **Adjourn** - The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ron Rodjenski