

CITY OF GERMANTOWN  
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
Tuesday, August 13, 2019  
6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order: Chairman Jennifer Sisson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
2. Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum: Regina Gibson called the roll and established a quorum.

Members Present: Chairman Jennifer Sisson; Vice Chairman Rhea Clift; Alderman Mary Ann Gibson; Frank Uhlhorn; Mike Harless; and Jodie Bowden

Members Absent: Greg Hurley

Staff Present: Cameron Ross, Economic and Community Development; Sheila Pounder, Planning Division Manager; Sarah Goralewski, Senior Planner; Regina Gibson, Administrative Secretary, and Alan Strain, Attorney.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Harless moved to approve the Board of Zoning and Appeals minutes of June 11, 2019, seconded by Mr. Uhlhorn.

**ROLL CALL:**

Clift – Yes  
Uhlhorn – Yes  
Harless – Yes  
Bowden – Yes  
Gibson – Yes  
Sisson – Yes

**MOTION PASSED 6-0-0**

4. Case Number 19-933

Location: 7254 Neshoba Rd.  
Owner: David Smith  
Applicant/Agent: Law Offices of Baker Donelson for Verizon Wireless – C.C. Drayton, Agent  
Request: Approval of a Use on Appeal to Allow a Wireless Transmission Facility (Cell Tower) in the R District (MLGW Transmission Tower attachment).

\*Refer to complete application, plans, staff report and letters of concern on file.

Sarah Goralewski made a staff presentation.

C.C. Drayton (Agent for the Applicant), of the Law Offices of Baker Donelson (165 Madison, Memphis, TN), on behalf of Verizon Wireless, made the presentation to the Board.

The Board discussed the request.

Chairman Sisson requested anyone wishing to speak in favor of this variance, to come forward and state their name and address.

Charles Watson (1973 Val Verde, Germantown, TN) spoke in favor of this request.

Chairman Sisson requested anyone wishing to speak against this variance, to come forward and state their name and address. There was none.

Frank Uhlhorn made a motion to approve a use on appeal to allow a 125' tall wireless transmission facility (cell tower) to locate within an MLGW transmission tower at 7254 Neshoba Rd in the "R" Single-Family Residential zoning district, subject to the Board's discussion, staff comments noted in the staff report and the site plan submitted with the application, seconded by Mike Harless

**ROLL CALL:**

Bowden – Yes

Clift – Yes

Uhlhorn – Yes

Harless – Yes, agreeing with the citizen who spoke in favor of the request. Germantown needs better cell phone coverage as quickly as possible, especially for 911 calls.

Gibson – Yes, there is clearly a gap in cell phone coverage, and she hopes to see more carriers to address these gaps.

Sisson – Yes, for the reasons already stated.

**MOTION PASSED 6-0-0**

5. Old Business

Chairman Sisson asks if there was any old business. There was none.

6. New Business

Chairman Sisson asks if there was any new business. There was none.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, comments, or questions by the Commission, Chairman Sisson adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.