

## STAFF REPORT

**Title:** Radio Communications Project – Site Acquisition for erection of Radio Communications Tower

**Scope:** Obtain a site in the vicinity of the Jefferson Street Utilities site for the erection of a 250' communications tower to support the City of Winchester's radio communications.

**Background:** The design of the radio communications program for the City of Winchester specifies the erection of a 250' radio communications tower in the area of the Jefferson Street Utilities Compound. This site was selected as a result of propagation studies relating to radio coverage, elevation and the fact the city has interest in the property reducing and/or eliminating additional capital expenditures and long term lease agreements. The erection of the radio tower must take into consideration the area requirement of the site, access, fall zone and general community safety. The internal area of the Utilities Compound was and continues to be a consideration for tower site but based on area, fall zone considerations and general security an adjacent site immediately north of the compound may prove more suitable.

The parcel immediately north of the compound site is undeveloped land, appropriately zoned for the erection of the communications tower and is owned by the Handley Trust.

**Conclusion:** Staff is requesting Council approve the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager and/or his designee to initiate discussions with the Winchester School Board, Winchester School Administration and the Handley Trust relating to the acquisition of a parcel of land to accommodate the erection of a radio communication tower of adequate height to provide the coverage specification as specified in the RFP.

## RESOLUTION

### **A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DISGNEE TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE WINCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD AND HANDLEY TRUST RELATING TO THE ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR THE ERECTION OF A COMMUNICATION TOWER**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Winchester has embarked on a radio communications project to support internal and external radio communications requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, the design of the proposed communications program is dependent on the establishment of infrastructure including but not limited to a communications tower, base station and subscriber equipment; and

**WHEREAS**, the radio coverage as specified in the request for proposal is dependent on a single site communications transmit and receive site including a radio communications tower; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed site of the radio tower is in the area of the terminus of Jefferson Street; and

**WHEREAS**, the most compatible site may be on property owned and governed by the Handley Trust; and

**WHEREAS**, it is desirable to initiate discussions with the Winchester School Board and the Handley Trust relating to the acquisition of a site suitable for the erection of the tower; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Common Council of the City of Winchester, Virginia hereby authorizes the City Manager and/or his designee to initiate discussion with the Winchester School Board and the Handley Trust to acquire a site for the erection of the radio communication tower.

B-2012-46

CITY OF WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

PROPOSED CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

CITY COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MEETING OF: 6.19.2012 CUT OFF DATE: 6.13.2012

RESOLUTION  X  ORDINANCE   PUBLIC HEARING

ITEM TITLE: Radio Tower Site Acquisition

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve attached resolution permitting discussion with the Winchester School Board and the Handley Trust to obtain a site for the erection of a radio communication tower at the western terminus of Jefferson Street.

PUBLIC NOTICE AND HEARING: N/A

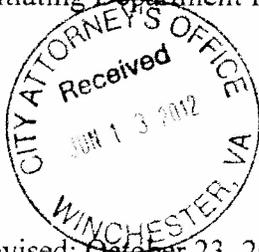
ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION: N/A

FUNDING DATA: N/A

INSURANCE:

The initiating Department Director will place below, in sequence of transmittal, the names of each department that must initial their review in order for this item to be placed on the City Council agenda. The Director's initials for approval or disapproval address only the readiness of the issue for Council consideration. This does not address the Director's recommendation for approval or denial of the issue.

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>INITIALS FOR APPROVAL</u>	<u>INITIALS FOR DISAPPROVAL</u>	<u>DATE</u>
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. City Attorney	<i>[Signature]</i>	_____	6/13/2012
6. City Manager	<i>[Signature]</i>	_____	6-14-12
7. Clerk of Council	_____	_____	_____
Initiating Department Director's Signature:	<i>[Signature]</i>	_____	6-13-2012 Date



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

*[Signature]* 6/13/2012  
CITY ATTORNEY