

MARATHON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES FROM PUBLIC HEARING, March 23, 2026

AT&T CELL TOWER - 5355 OTTER LAKE RD

Applicant: Steve Carr
2894 Aldersgate Drive
Greenwood, IN 46143

Cell Tower located at
5355 Otter Lake Rd
Otter Lake, MI 48464

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Meinecke. Pledge was recited and roll call taken showing Cossaboom, Deitering, and Church as absent. A motion was made by Brockriede with support by Baker to approve the agenda. All votes Aye, motion carried.

Chairman Meinecke called the public hearing to order at 6:03 p.m. Steve Carr, representing AT&T began his presentation with explaining what the cell tower provides. The existing structure was first applied for in 2023 and this process will complete the zoning requirements. AT&T Mobility is proposing to install a 195' monopole facility with a 4' lightning rod. The site will have a fenced compound around the tower and ground equipment at the base of the tower. The site will be constructed to accommodate AT&T Mobility antennas and other carriers on the site. The site will help improve cell phone coverage for this area of the Township. Otter Lake is well known for having very little cell reception. The permits have been pulled and existing vegetation will serve as a buffer. The tower is totally collapsable within itself. The generator will cycle once per month.

Comments from the audience: Will megahertz be increased over time when more companies sign on? Will there be a rise in taxes for having a tower in our area? Will the signals interfere with television reception?

Chairman Meinecke closed the public hearing at 6:25 p.m. and opened the regular meeting for questions and discussion. AT&T provided a copy of the legal description and deed, a copy of the lease agreement, a geotechnical exploration report from Trileaf Environmental Architecture Engineering, a proposed mount evaluation letter from Black & Veatch and a site plan. There is no need for a soil and erosion permit and the driveway permit has since expired.

A motion was made by Brockriede with support by Baker to approve the special land use for AT&T, 5355 Otter Lake Rd, for a communication tower upon the receipt of drawings showing the impact of fall, the driveway permit update and increasing the aggregate base from 3 inches to 6 inches. Roll Vote: Baker Yes, Brockriede Yes, Meinecke Yes, Glesenkamp Yes. Church Absent, Cossaboom Absent, Deitering Absent.

A motion was made by Brockriede with a second by Baker to adjourn. All votes Aye. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Submitted by Sandi Glesenkamp, Secretary

Approved Smokey Meinecke