

## **Tower proposal Q&A prepared by Bob Fynbo – Chappy WISP**

### **Why is this happening now?**

The Town and residents have been trying to solve the shortage of modern technology and communication on Chappy for over 7 years. There have been three committees and various false starts. In 2008 I started Chappy WISP to bring high speed Internet to all of Chappy. In 2015 Comcast wired Chappy and in 2016 we got the temporary cell tower from AT&T. This is the final step towards that goal.

### **Where will the tower be located?**

At the current site of the Chappy WISP tower and AT&T temporary tower. Both of these will be removed upon completion of the new tower.

### **Why this location?**

It was chosen as giving the best general coverage footprint as well as replacing an existing unregulated tower. The new tower will be under the purview of the EPB and MVC.

### **How tall are the current towers?**

The two on Chappy are 84' and 104' respectively. The two primaries in Edgartown are 180' and 220'. The Edgartown water tank is at 160'.

### **What is the total height and type of the proposed tower?**

115' steel monopole.

### **How much height can be added to the tower in the future?**

None

### **Who will use the new tower?**

Currently AT&T and Verizon have leases in place. Chappy WISP will also use it. There can be one additional carrier, but it would require EPB and MVC approval.

### **Who will own the completed tower?**

Bob Fynbo (mvWiFi, llc)

### **Will there be additional buildings and fixtures added on site?**

No, all new equipment will be housed inside the current 24'x24' garage. There will be AC condensers and a generator that will replace existing units.

### **Will there be more noise?**

The new equipment is actually quieter and better shielded than the existing equipment in use.

### **What if the tower falls and how likely is that?**

Towers are made to fold under failure as opposed to falling like trees. Regardless, the tower height and position are set so it cannot land on any adjacent structure.

### **Are there any other permits required?**

Yes, the FCC requires numerous studies to be done before granting a permit (<https://www.fcc.gov/general/tower-and-antenna-siting>).

### **What about radiation emissions?**

After more than 30 years there is no link between cell towers and cancer. Article by the American Cancer Society - (<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/cancer-causes/radiation-exposure/cellular-phone-towers.html>).

## **Tower proposal Q&A prepared by Bob Fynbo – Chappy WISP**

### **Why isn't it a stealth tower like the temporary?**

Each carrier needs 10' of separation from the next carrier so they do not interfere with each other. In order to provide full service now and with upcoming technologies each carrier requires 9-12 antennas. In the limited diameter of a stealth tower each carrier would need two segments (20'). If we start with Chappy WISP needing to keep at our current height of 85' a stealth tower would require 155' to accommodate the same number of carriers compared to the proposed design of 115'. At 40' taller a stealth tower loses a lot of the "stealth", which is why the zoning law as written leaves room for alternatives. The proposed monopole would also have less of a visible impact on the neighborhood and Chappy in general.

### **What about DAS?**

DAS (distributed antenna system) is designed to cover small areas that an existing conventional tower doesn't reach. DAS requires poles, power, and fiber to each unit. Since there are no utility poles on the beach or in large areas of Chappy, the coverage area would be a fraction of the proposed tower. In the future, a couple of DAS units could be used if needed to fill in coverage in difficult areas.

### **Why put a tower in a residential neighborhood?**

Along with the location giving the best overall coverage, it is where the most users are. The central mass of Chappy (and in particular the dense Enos subdivision) is where most of the year-round users are located. Also, with a mean elevation of 22' it will make the tower the least visible to the rest of Chappy. Finally, it removes the only existing (unregulated) long term tower on Chappy.