

From: "P. Joan Barron" <xxxx@yyy.zzz>
Date: Sun, 2/20/2011 12:18:14 PM
To: "planning"
Subject: Amateur Radio Antennas in Virginia City Highlands

After reviewing all of the information provided on the issue of multiple towers erected on the Taormina property in Virginia City Highlands, it would be my determination that the towers are **not** in compliance with existing laws/rules. In addition to being out of compliance, the esthetics and beauty our the skyline in the Highlands is terribly impacted.

Should this precedent be set, it would be conceivable that others would follow suit, littering our beautiful community with this atrocity, greatly impacting home values even further than already reduced in today's economy.

The Taormina family touts the title of Amateur Radio Emergency Services Emergency Coordinator for Storey County (information that was secured from a letter written by his attorney Fred Hopengarten on August 13, 2008). I cannot help but ask if this is a valid title, whether Tom Taormina is in fact the emergency coordinator, does he have all of the Highland residences' contact information for whatever emergency service he provides with this title, and what are the qualifiers for this position. It appears that his position is that his radio hobby is necessary to the safety of the Highlands. From a layman's observation, it would appear that one tiny antenna on top of a roof would suffice to keep an active communication on-going for the immediate safety in Highland's area.

I have no personal agenda against Mr. Taormina and am saddened that his hobby impacts so many as well as creates a division in the community. There are those that believe he provides an emergency service to the Highlands (hence my questions above), those that do not have pride of ownership and do not have a desire to maintain the beauty of the community against those that are concerned about the precedent being set for more ham radio operators (with antennas) to move in as well as pride in the beauty of our community and retention of home values. In case I haven't been emphatic enough, I am in the latter category.

It is my understanding that there is to be a meeting regarding this issue on March 3, 2011, and I have every intention to attend. Without knowing the agenda for the meeting and because our business can require us to be out of town at a moments notice, I wish to express my position via this forum and request that the Storey County Building Department consider that erection of the skyscraping ham radio towers cease.

Please contact me if you have any questions or wish further dialogue.

Thank you and regards,

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