

Town of Fenner

June 9, 2021

Attendance: Councilperson Cody, Councilperson Wester, Councilperson Strack, Councilperson Pushlar, Supervisor Jones

Town Board meeting called to order at 8:03 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

Board meeting was held in the Fenner Town Barn to accommodate a larger audience.
Board meeting was audio recorded

Previous month's minutes approved by Councilperson Strack seconded by Councilperson Wester with correction (spelling error)

Town Clerk's Monthly Report motion to approve by Councilperson Pushlar seconded by Councilperson Cody

Supervisor's Monthly report motion to approve by Councilperson Wester and seconded by Councilperson Strack

Highway Superintendent's Monthly Report:

Deputy Robbie Conklin - presented the report
culverts, ditching, truck maintenance and preparing roads for paving

Motion to open public hearing at 8:18 pm by Councilperson Wester seconded by Councilperson Cody. Topic: Solar Zoning Law, Supervisor Jones explained the expectations of the hearing. All comments will be addressed only to the Board and limited to a timed 3 minutes. This was not a question and answer session. Comments that were made in writing will be included also.

Resident: Karol Toole - read attached letter

Resident: Robert Stinson- sent letter for Board to read aloud, attached

Resident: Scott Lake - Against Solar panels - I just have a little under 2 acres, I don't want to drag my house value down I won't be able to sell the beautiness that Fenner holds is unmatched in my opinion I didn't build a house here 20 years ago to look at 1200 acres of solar panels I don't have a big market here in the Town of Fenner, I don't go to all the meeting that my own fault but I still have a say and normally I believe it's your land do want as long as you take care of it it's going to be a big splinter in the town of Fenner

Resident: Dick Foringer- Against Any Solar panels -this is Fenner. If we wanted to live in an industrial park we'd have built a house in Carrier Circle, this is Fenner. Fenner is Agricultural, but covers it in solar panels. Great, you have renewable energy you got energy but you have land that's not tillable, as far reclaiming land? I don't trust that,look what happened with the windmills. Are we happy? Did that work for us? After 15 years? Fool me once. So many things to consider with migration, birds, wild life, going to be effected not to mention home owners, someone next to you wants to add solar panels I guess we're left holding the bad end of the

Resident: Rick Bosworth - I have been a member of BOAR for 30 years - I see someone who wants to lower taxes because they are in the immediate vicinity near solar farms. This is CNY. Is there not a better place to put these farms? Great for landowners. But they put these in and in 15 years your on your own I am against solar farm

Resident Scott Griffin - I am addressing this to Council Pushlar and Cody how would who has lived here 100 years, and get along. We are only harvesting the sun, we just want to harvest the sun, they harvest the sun when they harvest the corn. It's no different. We all need the sun, wto grow the corn, to make electricity we aren't going to stop the green energy push windfarm lowered taxes bought a lot of equipment town's thinking is off why shouldn't Fenner benefit why not expand on the wind farm and benefit, lower your taxes, bought equipment for the town.

Motion to adjourn public hearing was made at 8:44 pm by Councilperson Wester seconded by Councilperson Cody

Public Hearing will be continued at the July 14, 2021 Board Meeting set forth in:

Resolution 2021 -18

Moved to adopt by Councilperson Strack seconded by Councilperson Cody

Individual vote: **Councilperson** Strack - aye Councilperson Wester -aye Councilperson Cody - aye Supervisor Jones -aye Councilperson Pushlar aye

Public Comment: residence wondering when Town Highway Crew will begin mowing roadside. Residents were directed to contact Highway Superintendent Smith.

Vouchers

General Funds motion to approve made by Councilperson Pushlar seconded by Councilperson Strack

Highway Funds motion to approve made by Councilperson Pushlar seconded by Councilperson Cody

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:44 made by Councilperson Wester seconded by Councilperson Pushlar

June 9, 2021

Town of Fenner
Town Board
3151 Fenner East Road
Cazenovia, NY 13035

Re: Town of Fenner Draft Solar Law

Dear Town Board Members,

The undersigned are all landowners involved in the development of the 140 MW Oxbow Hill Solar Project in The Town of Fenner. We write in opposition to the Town's Draft Solar Law which prohibits the development of large-scale solar projects in the Town.

Most of our families have lived and maintained farms in the Town of Fenner for generations. We are active members of the community, act as good neighbors, and are conscientious stewards of the natural resources on our farms.

Maintaining an active farming operation is a challenging business. In the past, several of us had the opportunity to integrate a wind farm into our operations. That effort helped sustain our farming operations and has been an important part of our success. The wind farm also benefited all taxpayers in the Town.

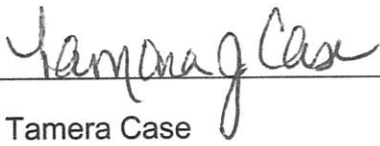
We now have the opportunity to augment our farming operations with a solar farm. The Oxbow Hill Solar project will help us maintain and continue our farms and our way of life here in the Town of Fenner and will utilize less than one percent (1%) of the prime farmland in the County. Importantly, using our land for solar development preserves its use for active agriculture in the future, as opposed to developing our land for other purpose, such as a subdivision. This Solar Project will also provide significant economic benefit to all taxpayers in the Town.

We have not heard a groundswell of opposition to the Oxbow Hill Project from our neighbors in the Town. It appears that opposition to the project is coming from an active minority within the Town. There was little interest from members of the community in the workings of the solar committee and sparse attendance at any public meeting addressing solar development. We do not believe there is widespread support for the Town's Draft Solar Law, no notice, and little to no effort to inform the Town regarding its provisions. We believe the Town Board is acting in a virtual vacuum and may not be representing the views of its constituents.

We believe the draft solar law is setting the Town up for failure. Pursuant to Section 94-c of the Executive Law, the State Office of Renewable Energy Siting may overrule local requirements or prohibitions if they are considered to be unreasonably burdensome. If the new Solar Law is considered to be unreasonably burdensome, then the Oxbow Hill Solar Project will be permitted via the state siting process, regardless of the local law. We think that the proposed Solar Law will be considered unreasonably burdensome, as total solar bans have been in other towns. At this point, we believe it makes more sense for the Town Board

to take a step back and revise the Town Solar Law to permit large-scale solar in a manner that is more consistent with the State requirements and renewable energy goals.

Respectfully,



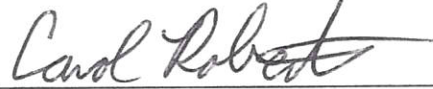
Tamera Case



Remo Radicchi



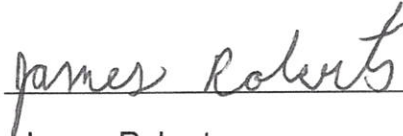
Wayne Case




Carol Roberts



Bertha Griffin



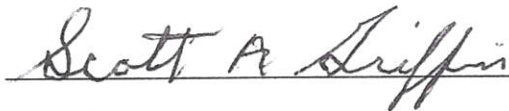
James Roberts



Donna Griffin



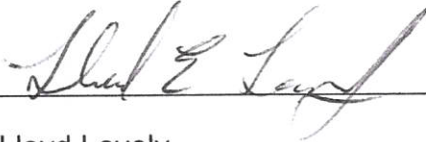
Jerry Roberts



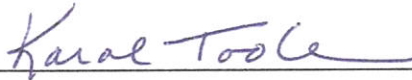
Scott Griffin



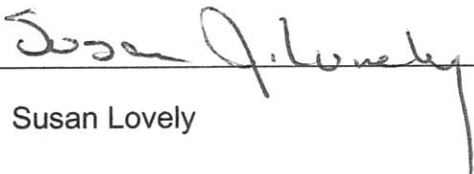
Kenneth Roberts



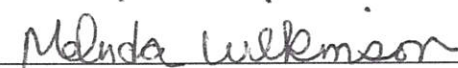
Lloyd Lovely



Karol Toole



Susan Lovely



Melinda Wilkinson