SOLAR MEETING AGENDA MAY 14 2020 via ZOOM

Hannah Strack

Charlie Pace

Phil Rose

Wayne Mandel

Absent: Ken Roberts

Meeting called to order 7:01pm

Review of April’s minutes approved by P.Rose, seconded by W. Mandel

Assessment questions for Rhonda (joined by telephone). Rhonda states that there is a nominal penalty for land use change designation (ie Agricultural to Industrial/Solar) in her experience. (This contradicts what solar members researched). Rhonda stated that landowners would not need to change their land use designation until the solar panels are installed and in use - regardless of “rent” being paid. All that would be required is a line change for the portion of the land used for solar.

Rhonda was not aware that the Town opted out of the 487.

Hannah - will continue to try and contact NYSERDA looking into regulations and information on large scale solar development.

Wayne will contract Chris Carrick, Energy Program Manager, CNY Regional Planning and Development Board.

Charlie – environmental bond updates - no updates at this time - November is the vote.

Dave Jones – spoke with John Salka - the Governor is planning on decommissioning a nuclear plant in downstate (Indian Point) , stating solar energy will be necessary to make up for lost power generation. Discussion followed - solar energy will not provide the same amount of energy as a nuclear plant. Also, all lines on the budget are being cut 20 - 50 percent, except green energy budget.

New business – committee’s individual reports discussed - lots of good ideas and points of interests - Lisa will collate the information and make it available for the committee.

Next steps/tasks - Contact Town Attorney with the following concerns:

How does Solar land lease and Ag. exemption work?

Should Rhonda have been contacted regarding opting out of 487?

Road use agreement between Town and solar company.

How do we determine the town's threshold size for any project moving forward? How would Zoning look?

Next meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2020 at 7pm. This may change depending on the Attorney's availability.

Adjournment at 9:20

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Dolan, Town Clerk