



Town of Knox Planning Board

Established 1822

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Present in person and via Google meet online: Ed Ackroyd, Todd LaGrange, Betty Ketcham, Deb Nelson, Tom Wolfe, Bill Pasquini and Kurt Johnson.

Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 7:10pm

Minutes of Previous Meeting Reviewed

Tom made a motion to approve November 2020 minutes, Ed seconded and all in favor.

Tom made a motion to open the meeting for a public hearing of the Thompsons Lake Solar array project, Bill seconded and all in favor.

Public Hearing for Knox Solar Array Project

John Reagan of RIC Energy presented the Solar Array project in detail. A power point presentation was shared with the audience in person and via the google meet. All of the documents are available on the Knox Drop box, located on the Knox Town website. Anyone can access them for review.

The floor was opened for public comment:

Al Gaige (property borders the Solar Array Project):

Concerns include things like cell phone/wifi interference, Hazardous materials that may be brought to the site during construction, visual impact, property value and also wondering how much benefit it will have for the town? (Letter attached)

John and Kathey Bunzey of 1787 Thompson Lake Rd:

Concerns of visual impact the solar array will have for them. Requests a visual impact study to be done of his home in relation to the project site. This can be done for them before the next meeting by RIC if their property is identified on the map.(letter attached)

Linda and Peter Novello of 1697 Thompson Lake Rd:

They are both opposed to the project. Concerns include drainage, due to already poor drainage near their property, health concerns for her husband and herself with all the dust and dirt put into the air during the construction, noise from construction, trucks in and out etc.(letter attached)

Christine Zimmer of 47 Zay Rd:

Concerned about runoff and the project creating more of a drainage problem for the surrounding area. Also concerns of what type of vegetation being planted on the project site. Concerned of possible fertilization or lime use. (per RIC they will not be using any)

Cy Tse of 41 Old Stage Rd:

Concerns of his visual impact. RIC is willing to do a visual impact study for his property.

Grace Cunningham:

She is concerned with property value post construction of project.

John Regan responded to the questions and concerns of the public. He explained that anyone that is concerned about the visual impact for their home they can request to have a visual study conducted. He also reviewed the storm water protection plan which explains the drainage concerns about the project. Further studies done on property values of other areas that have had solar arrays built will also be provided.

All letters and public comments will be posted on the Knox Town website and all planning board members will review them and have responses/comments for next month's meeting.

Tom made a motion to close the public hearing, Ed seconded it, all in favor.

Tom made a motion to adjourn, Ed seconded it, all in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

The next meeting to be held January 14 2021 at 7pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tiffany Snyder Knox Planning Board Secretary