



Town of Knox Planning Board

Established 1822

P.O. Box 56 • Knox, New York • 12107 • Phone 518-872-2551 • www.knoxny.org

Minutes: February 10 2022

Present: Todd LaGrange, Betty Ketcham, Deb Nelson, Tom Wolfe, Bill Pasquini and Kurt Johnson.

Absent: Ed Ackroyd (due to covid)

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm.

Minutes will not be reviewed this month from December 2021.

Per Town guidelines the sexual harassment training needs to be completed by March 7 2022.

Solar Array Project on 1953 Thompsons Lake Rd Public Hearing Meeting Opened at 7:37pm.

Chris from RIC Energy Presenting

- 66-acre property, owned currently by the Kochs.
- 2 transformers will be on site of the solar array.
- Panels are oriented north south instead of east west because this system utilizes a single tracker system. The panels will shift throughout the day to adjust to location of the sun which will generate a higher rate of electricity.
- Description and specs presented (this can be found on the town website)
- In addition to the current vegetation along Thompsons Lake Rd, planting of evergreens is part of the proposed plan. When planted they will be at 6-8ft. Once they reach maturity they should block the solar array entirely.
- Pollinator friendly seed mix to be used on site. Total area is approximately 6.8 acres of pollinating habitat.
- Visual impact assessment can also be found on the town website.

Public Comment

Cliff Barber- Has concerns about the pollinator mix that will be used (purple coneflower; butterfly milkweed; licorice scented goldenrod) as this could be harmful to the farmers. Suggest using instead: white and red clover; crown vetch or any vetchers; birdsfoot refoil.

Chris Kryzak- would like a visual assessment done on his property.

Scott Rafsenperger-would like a visual assessment done on his property.

Garret Klappel- concerned if there will be any leakage to ground water if a panel or transformer breaks.

Other questions and concerns from the public:

- Where will the energy be going?
- Will this increase traffic or problems at the current intersection?
- How often will mowing be done?
- What about drainage or runoff?
- Has the project been presented to ACPB?

Answers from RIC:

- The energy will be going thru the Voorheesville substation and the percentage of the PILOT is negotiable.
- No impact to traffic in this area.
- Mowing to be done 1-2x a year. It will be kept lower than 3 ft.
- RIC consulting engineer will provide the Planning Board with a condensed version of the SWPPP for this project.
- RIC will provide information on any potential contamination from the run off of the solar panels to the Planning Board.
- This has not been brought to the ACPB yet, possibly sometime in March/April.
- RIC will also change the answer on part E.2 q of the EAF (hunting, fishing etc) from no to yes.

With no further comments at this time, the Public comments were extended by Tom Wolfe.

RIC to be back next month's meeting to present changes and new information regarding the visual impact studies requested.

Deb made a motion to adjourn, Tom second it, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.

Next meeting to be held March 10 2022

Respectfully submitted,
Tiffany Snyder Knox Planning Board Secretary