

Town of Grand Island - Workshop Meeting #21

A workshop meeting of the Town Board of Grand Island, New York was held at the Town Hall, 2255 Baseline Road, Grand Island, NY at 11:00a.m. on the 13th of July, 2018.

Present: James R. Sharpe Deputy Supervisor
Beverly A. Kinney Councilwoman
Michael H. Madigan Councilman
Jennifer L. Baney Councilwoman
Peter Marston, Jr. Councilman
Patricia A. Frentzel Town Clerk

Excused: Nathan D. McMurray Supervisor

Also Present: Thomas Guzek – SolarPark Energy, LLC – Managing General Partner
Paul Leuchner – Technical Assistant

Deputy Supervisor James R. Sharpe called the meeting to order at 11:00a.m. in the absence of the Town Supervisor.

NEW ITEMS:

General Discussion:

Meeting with SolarPark Energy, LLC – 1611 Whitehaven Road – Solar Array Project:

- Showcase project
- 42 acre property on Whitehaven Road
- Tree removal – 72 Oak trees – 14” or larger
- Tree Replacement – Plans are to plant 90 White Oak (2 ½”) trees along Grand Island Boulevard, possibly some in Veterans Park
- Land use
- Wetlands
- Pollinator habitat systems
- Eco systems
- Fencing requirements
- 10’ road will be inside fence
- Panels will be 50-60’ from closest residential property line
- No herbicides, pesticides
- Class B creek
- Two transformers
 - Natural based oil
 - Sitting on 5’ x 5’ concrete pads inside fencing
- Fire Training Completed
 - Disconnect switches will be in place
- Possibility of 25% +/- renewable/sustainable energy for Grand Island
- Largest community solar project in NYS
- Residential savings – up to 1 megawatt of energy will offered to residents that meet LMI criteria in Zone A through application process – and will get free power through NYSERDA
- Participants (through subscription) can lock into guaranteed rates of 11.0 cents/kw/hr. – flat for 20 years; currently at 11.2 cents - 11.7 cents per kw/hr. (rates increase 2-3% annually)

Councilwoman Jennifer Baney left the meeting at 11:54a.m.

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General Discussion:

Meeting with SolarPark Energy, LLC – 1611 Whitehaven Road – Solar Array Project:

- Two substations – 20 megawatts total capacity allowed
- 50 + years experience
- Bond requirements
- Limited sight of panels from residential homes
- Property values
- Shrub buffers
- PILOT program in process
- Original Subdivision plan for property was 81+ homes
- Proposed tree planting/lighting (new streetscape) at DeGlopper Park
- Non-for-profits can use energy to raise funds

ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Councilman Marston, seconded by Councilman Madigan to adjourn at 12:13p.m.

APPROVED Ayes 3 Kinney, Madigan, Marston
Noes 0

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Frentzel
Town Clerk