

September 16, 2021

Merle Snell:

Memorial Ideas – Hartland Fire does not know what they are doing yet.

- Tree planted on memory lane behind the Town Hall with plaque

Solar:

Maverick Farms will be hosting a Solar meeting

- None of the neighbors are happy about this
- This set up may not have the battery operation

Article 10 – Super secret

Article 93 or 98 – Basically says We will do what we want to do.

Concern was expressed that the solar will violate wetland rules. If that happens, what can stop them.

Town Zoning Laws:

Planning Board – Exclusive right to deal with solar and wind towers

- The laws sound like it should start with Zoning Board
- Zoning decides placement, then why are we involved? If we're not involved, we should be taken out of the law.
- We're always the last to know, as a chairman we have no knowledge
- Order starts with the planning board
- We don't know what can be done or what has been done
- What happened to the survey? Budget \$2,500 authorized in the Town minutes
- Zoom meeting
- PB – Main cog in the wheel in every other town meeting he has been to. Cambria, City and Town of Lockport, Newfane... etc.
- We should invite Caitlin (from Newfane or Barker) to our next meeting as a guest speaker.

Jim Schultz, a US&J writer

He runs a Citizens Advocacy Group, that meets every 2 weeks. Margaret is a part of this group. The purpose of this group is to study solar issues like Environmental impact, finances, and alternative options. This will continue until the end of the year. Experts are included in this group also.

In January the group will compile and publish for public record.

Bob Harris mentioned that there are approximately 70 dams throughout NYS that can be converted to use as Hydro power. Margaret will take this idea back to the group.

Public policy. He has been to S. Africa with Nelson Mandela, President.

Schultz travels around the world professionally.

Spencer suggested we create a committee within Niagara County with parties from all towns.

Margaret: It seems that anything we present falls on deaf ears

Comprehensive Plan: Every law thrown out the window because someone makes a little bawk about it. We don't want to lose the character of our little town.

Spencer: Tractor trailer sized batteries

Not enough water in the Town of Hartland to put out a fire of that size.

Per Sherry the fire department was told to just let it burn

If they were to explode it creates a 2 miles radius of dead zone, polluted ground. This has never been discussed. This should be part of the bond.

Harris: Open meeting for zoning to see the public's thoughts. Set up with fire company. Was told a few days before meeting that it was none of our business. Quite disturbing

Margaret: Solar Map: 2 places where solar won't work

1. Right where we live, our area.
2. Some other place

We are 1 of only 2 places where solar isn't suitable.

We could save 40% if they'd replace the transmission lines.

We have the greatest natural resources. We have farm fields and water. California is running out of water. Let's not make us a waste dump

Spencer: After 3 years NYS can take over and stop all payments to the landowners.

Sherry: California went green, they have rolling black outs often.

Harris: Erie canal is a huge resource. Farmers siphon water through the white pipes you see on the side of the canal. We will be the breadbasket when the West dries up.

Margaret: Our way of life will be destroyed. I moved out here for the country life. I have a 100 acres view, not a view of solar panels. Quality of life matters here.

Plan for growth instead of nail in the coffin

Required Training:

2 hours of Site Plan Review Training is being offered at the Cornel Coop on 11/8/21 at 5:30pm.
A total of 5 hours is required.

Marijuana:

We have until December 31st, 2021, to opt out of allowing dispensaries or smoke rooms in our town. We will ask the Town Board to put it in the agenda. We do not feel we have the attraction or need here. Opting out of a legal business may not be in our best interest. This should be discussed with attorney Seaman.

Jail Holding Center:

An alternative to building a holding center we could investigate shipping containers as a cheaper but effective option.