

PALMYRA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Special Meeting and Public Hearing Minutes May 18, 2021

Meeting conducted outdoors at new Township Hall, 6490 Palmyra Rd., and remotely via Zoom Video

The meeting was called to Order by Chairwoman Isley at 7:00 pm.

Present; Brown, Comstock, Crane, Isley, Mapstone, Pell, Southwell.

Absent; None

Motion to approve Agenda by Comstock, support Southwell. Motion passed.

Motion to approve Minutes by Crane, support Mapstone. Motion passed.

Written comments; None

Public comments; other than Solar. None

Old Business;

Motion by Comstock to open Public Hearing to discuss an Amendment to the Palmyra Township Zoning Ordinance, Article VIII, Section 8.13, Solar Energy Systems. Support Mapstone. Motion passed. Approximately sixty (60) members of the public were in attendance along with Supervisor Pixley as well as those members of the public participating on Zoom Video.

Isley stated proposed rules for the public to address the Planning Commission (P.C.): Each person is to state their name and address, has three (3) minutes to speak. After all have spoken each person may speak again for one (1) minute. The P.C. can respond if asked questions or wait to respond until after the speaker's three (3) minutes are up. Isley then asked the P.C. members if these rules are acceptable to the P.C. All P.C. members responded "yes". Isley then asked the public to raise their hand if they want to speak.

The following people spoke: Susan Loar, Palmyra. Bill Reed, Palmyra. Dan Sautter, Palmyra. Laura Cook, Palmyra. Joshua Pixley, Palmyra. Kevin Smith, Riga. Jeff Creque, Sylvania, OH. Cliff Buehrer, Palmyra. Jeff Ehlert, Blissfield. Jim Isley, Palmyra. Maria Crane, Palmyra. Jim Loar, Palmyra. Paul Vergote, Blissfield.

Chair Isley read a written correspondence that she received in support of utility-scale solar development across Lenawee County along with supporting signatures of two hundred (200) residents of Lenawee County.

Returning for public comments for one (1) minute: Susan Loar, Palmyra. Jim Isley, Palmyra. Randy Keller, Sylvania, OH. Alana Cook, Palmyra. Jeff Ehlert, Blissfield. Blake Rosemary, Palmyra. John Tuckerman, Riga.

P.C. members commented: Deb Comstock, Mark Crane, and Laura Brown.

Motion to close Public Hearing by Brown, support Mapstone. Motion passed at 7:57 pm.

Crane provided copies to the P.C. members of a map titled "Preliminary Site Plan" for the proposed Carroll Rd. Solar Farms showing solar panels if the setbacks were fifty (50) feet and everything in the area was covered with solar panels. Representatives of ESA Solar Energy, LLC stated that this map was if everything in the area were covered in solar panels, just volume, which would not be the case and did not account for surveys, houses and barns, what the energy output was or where they could put the panels. Crane stated that the Carroll Rd. project is not going to be built.

Chair Isley stated that the chart at the back of the Solar Ordinance has already been voted on. Only Footnote 6 has been added now. The next step is to send the Solar Ordinance to the Lenawee County P.C.

Motion by Comstock to send the Solar Ordinance to the Lenawee County P.C. for review, comments, and suggestions and then to the Township Board to discuss and make any changes. Support Mapstone. Roll call vote: Comstock-yes, Southwell-yes, Crane-no, Pell-yes, Isley-yes, Brown-no, Mapstone-yes. Motion passed.

New Business; None.

Next Regular Meeting Sept. 7, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Motion to adjourn by Crane, support Southwell. Motion passed at 8:13pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Vivian Pell Secretary