

TOWN OF GAINES PLANNING BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 4, 2022
TOWN HALL

Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Watt at 7:03 P. M.

Pledge to the Flag led by Doug Bower

PRESENT: Christopher Watt, Chairman; Gerald Monagan; Brenda Radzinski; Doug Bower
Excused: Justin Kirby

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Janet Ward; Kevin Overton; Jared Perram; Sherman Gittens, MRB

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Watt asked for a motion to approve the minutes of September 6, 2022; Motion by Doug Bower and 2nd by Gerald Monagan

Ayes - 4; Nays 0

Excused – 1; Justin Kirby

Chairman Watt asked for a motion to approve the Special Solar Law Meeting minutes of August 30, 2022; Motion by Brenda Radzinski and 2nd by Doug Bower

Ayes - 4; Nays 0

Excused – 1; Justin Kirby

Chairman Watt asked for a motion to approve the Special Solar Law Meeting minutes of September 27, 2022 with 1 minor change (present needed to be presented); Motion by Gerald Monagan and 2nd by Doug Bower

Ayes - 4; Nays 0

Excused – 1; Justin Kirby

Motion Carried.

Chairman Watt updated the board, by letting them know he and Sherman Gittens from MRB attended the Gaines Town Board and presented the new updated Solar Laws. The Town Board accepted the Laws as they were and they would then be sent to the County Planning Board. The Gaines Town Board also scheduled a public hearing for their November meeting and plans on holding it as long as everything is accepted at the County Planning Board. They will then be filed with the State of New York.

OLD BUSINESS:

UDERITZ Solar Project

Janet Ward from NextEra was present. Chairman Watt started the discussion asking if National Grid would be present for tonight's meeting as he requested. There needs to be a discussion regarding the situation with the placement of the Auxiliary Pole. Janet Ward stated she received a brief response from them, but they did not confirm whether they would be present or not. Chairman Watt told Janet there was not going to be any decision made tonight as they were still waiting on the Town Attorney; Doug Heath is reviewing information given to him regarding this project. Chairman Watt also stated they needed to meet with Emergency Management to finalize details with them before moving forward as well.

Sherman Gittens stepped in and mentioned to Janet one concern he had with the horse fence. He stated the set up included with the application might not work due to safety reasons. They would have to confirm with Emergency Management to clarify the situation.

At this time, no further action can be taken and more detail to come.

PESCARA 1 Solar Project

Chairman Watt then started the discussion with Jared Perram stating even though he was not on the agenda, he would still be able to speak. Jared was shocked to hear this as he thought he was on agenda according to the Town Attorney; Doug Heath. Jared stated there had been some response via email between himself and Doug Heath and Sherman and Chairman Watt were both included in the responses. According to Jared, Doug Heath felt all of the information he had reviewed for this part of the project looked good and he should be able to move forward. Jared felt that meant he would be on the agenda for this month's meeting. Chairman Watt stated he had not received any responses, but would be happy to continue with the discussion. Sherman Gittens then shared with the board an email he had received regarding the response Jared was talking about. Jared shared with the board; The Town of Carlton would be holding a hearing Wednesday night for the Special Use Permit and Site Plan for their half of the project. Jared would need the Town Planning Board to finalize a few items in order for the Town of Carlton to be able to do what they need to do at this meeting. There were multiple discussions between Chairman Watt, Sherman Gittens, MRB and Jared Perram regarding this matter and what could be done to move things along. Sherman suggested to the board they could do part 3 of the SEQR as well and completing the SEQR Determination of Significance Resolution and the SEQR Designating Lead Agency Resolution. They would also have to complete the Site Plan Approval Resolution and Special Use Permit Approval Resolution as well. Chairman Watt and the board agreed to follow through on this request and Chairman Watt suggested that Sherman do the 3rd part of SEQR outside of the meeting. Sherman agreed to Chairman Watt's request. Sherman Gittens then went over each of the forms, the board and Sherman discussed a few conditions Jared would have to follow while going over these forms; as well as a few changes made to the Site Plan and Special Use Permit Approval Resolutions. Jared agreed to all of the conditions and changes that were made. The SEQR Determination of Significance Resolution and SEQR Designating Lead Agency Resolution were completed; signed and a copy was then given to Jared. Sherman stated he would finalize the Site Plan Approval Resolution and Special Use Permit Approval Resolution and get that sent over once it was completed.

Chairman Watt asked for a motion to approve moving forward with the SEQR being done outside of meeting by Sherman Gittens and moving forward with the SEQR Determination of Significance Resolution; SEQR Designating Lead Agency Resolution; the Site Plan Approval Resolution; and Special Use Permit Approval Resolution in order to move the project forward; Motion by Gerald Monagan and 2nd by Doug Bower

Ayes - 4; Nays 0

Excused – 1; Justin Kirby

Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:12 P. M. by, Gerald Monagan 2nd by Brenda Radzinski

Ayes 4; Nays 0

Excused – 1; Justin Kirby

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Bradshaw
Secretary