

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting
66 E. Main Street, Mohawk, New York 13407
September 28, 2022

Present: Peter Rovazzi, Superintendent
Penny Watkins, Councilwoman
Ozzie Sterling, Councilman
Scott Hendrix, Councilman
John Brewer, Councilman
Jack Fitzer, Deputy Supervisor
Rich Sweeney, Codes
Jim Hawkins, Dog Control
Carmen Newtown, Highway superintendent
Karl Manne, Town Attorney
Dwight Kanyuck, Solar project Attorney
Tim Carpenter, Solar project Engineer
Pam Jones, Town Clerk

Public: 27 people, see separate sign-in sheet.

MEETING was called to order at 5:30. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

US LIGHT ENERGY SOLAR PROJECT PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Brewer to open public hearing on application by US Light Energy for Site Plan Review & Special Authorization approval to construct & operate a fixed tilt ground mounted photovoltaic (PV) solar energy facility of approximately 4.375 MWAC in capacity. Carried.

Chris Koenig of C.T. Male Associates and Zack Lissard of US Light Energy gave a presentation on solar project. Floor was open to public for questions.

Will there be contamination to ground water? None known.

Noise Pollution? Very little during the daytime.

Interference to cell phone service? None.

Life expectancy? 25 to 30 years.

Is solar energy subsidized by the State? Yes, Community Solar Projects.

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What is the saving on bills? 10 to 15% reduction on supply charges only.

Is there an effect on wildlife. None.

First responders will receive training.

Will US Light Energy upgrade when newer more efficient resources come available?
Yes.

Will weather effect the output of panels? No effect, there will be meters on site, to watch production of panels.

Are panels made in the USA? Yes.

What is the output of electricity? Approximately 4.375 MWAC.

Who gets to sign-up for savings? An agitator will be hired by US Light Energy to get people to apply, there is a waiting list but Town Resident will be able to sign-up first after 30 days opens up to everyone.

Attorneys will negotiate the revenue pilot 487. 30 days have passed for review of SEQR.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to close Public hearing at 6:35. Carried.

LOCAL LAW #1, 2022 MODIFICATION PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to open Public Hearing at 6:37 on Local Law #1, 2022 modifying regulations concerning solar systems within the Town of German Flatts. Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Watkins to close Public Hearing at 6:38. Carried.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to adopt Local Law #1,2022 and negative declaration on SEQR review. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

FORT HERKIMER AMATEUR RAIDO CLUB - Radio Club presented the Town of German Flatts with a plaque thanking them for their support along with the use of the building and thanked Rovazzi and Chuck in helping with the distribution of the items given to the Club by Tractor Supply for those in need. Radio Club also presented a plaque to Tractor Supply thanking them for the donation. Radio Club read aloud a list of nonprofit agencies that received portions of the donated items.

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MOAWK VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (MVEDD) - Rovazzi and Sweeney met with Amanda Kaier and Heather Devitt of MVEDD regarding a Town Comprehensive Plan. Kaier and Devitt informed them that if the Town Board were to pass the 3 proposed resolutions and Sweeney was to complete an education course with eligible credits towards required annual codes certification requirement: the Town would receive \$5,000.00 that could be used towards Comprehensive planning costs. Kaier and Devitt came tonight to answer any questions the Board may have on the resolutions and informed the Board that MVADD is available to help municipalities with grants and resources. Tabled till next meeting.

EMPIRE STATE RIDE - Thomas Johnston sent a thank you for the use of the Town Park for the Empire State Ride to End Cancer.

TRASH DAY- October 15,2022, 8-11am Town Garage.

LOUIS NATARELLI - Mr. Natarelli asked the board if anything had been done yet with the feral cats in Manion Heights. Hawkins is still waiting on Greg Foster to give Town information. Hawkins will call Foster.

NEW BUSINESS

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW #3, 2022 SOLAR MORATORIUM - Local law establishing a six month moratorium on applications, approvals and/or construction or installations on solar energy systems and/or solar farms within the Town of German Flatts.

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to hold a public hearing on October 25, 2022 at 5:45pm at the Town Community Center, on proposed Local Law #3, 2022. Carried.

JONES presented the Tentative budget to the Town Board.

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW #2, 2022 TAX CAP -

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to hold a public hearing on October 25, 2022 at 6:00pm at the Town Community Center on Local Law #2, 2022. A local law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law. Carried.

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RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZING DELINQUENT WATER BILLS TO BE SENT TO HERKIMER COUNTY -

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Brewer to send delinquent Manion Heights water bills to Herkimer County to be collected (re-levied) on the 2023 Town and County Tax bills. Carried.

BUDGET workshop set for October 12, 2022 at 1:00pm at the Town Community Center.

PRELIMINARY Budget Public Hearing will be October 25, 2022 at 6:15pm at the Town Community Center.

NEXT MONTHLY BOARD MEETING - October 25, 2022 at 5:30 at the Town Community Center.

NOVEMBER'S monthly meeting will be held on November 29, 2022 at 5:30pm at the Town Community Center due to The Thanksgiving Holiday.

NOVEMBER 7, 2022 at 1:00pm Board Meeting for budget adoption at the Town Community Center.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Rovazzi to approve the August 24, 2022 minutes. Watkins abstained. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Sterling to approve the September 6, 2022 minutes. Watkins and Brewer abstained. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Sterling to approve the August 2022 Treasure's report. Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to approve the Town Clerk's August 2022 report for \$1265.50. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Rovazzi to approve Judge Engert's August 2022 report for \$1421.00. Brewer abstained. Carried.

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to approve Judge Stone's August 2022 report for \$18,826.00. Brewer abstained. Carried.

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BILLS

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix, to pay GFIM bill for \$1375.21. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Sterling to pay bills as audited. Carried.

OTHER REPORTS

HIGHWAY - Newtown reported work being done on McKensy Place, Pine Bush , Bell Hill and Applewood Roads. Newtown reported that the department is all set for winter.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Sterling to send letters of intent for F-350 and F-550 trucks. Carried.

DOG CONTROL - Hawkins turned in his September 2022 report, 8 calls in Mohawk and 3 days of phone calls. Town received a bill from the HCHS for \$1240.00 for 8 puppies seized by Greg Foster in Mohawk on 6/28/2022. Town will return the bill stating not Towns responsibility to pay.

CODES - Sweeney turned in an updated report, 25 permits out, 19 active.

WATKINS asked if Town of German Flatts should have a Planning Board and a comprehensive Plan. Rovazzi stated a Comprehensive plan and a zoning board are requirements.

Rovazzi will talk to MVEDD for information on how to proceed.

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Rovazzi to adjourn at 8:00pm. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela A. Jones, Town Clerk

Town of German Flatts