

Minutes of April 13, 2021 Germantown Town Board Solar Law Workshop, via Zoom, commencing at 6:00pm.

Present: Supervisor Beury
Councilman Sullivan
Councilman Kukon
Councilmember Suarez
Councilman Christian

Town Attorney, Corinne Smith

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

Supervisor Beury opened the workshop.

Jen Crawford went over the Solar Zoning Structure.

Tier 1- Roof mount

Tier 2- Ground mount

Tier 1 & 2- are the same size

Tier 3- Is everything else, systems not included in Tiers 1 & 2

There was more discussion on Tier 3. Councilman Kukon brought up the Town of Livingston their law is only permitting commercial solar in the commercial district and the solar in the commercial district and the solar companies are trying to get easements to cross over properties. Chris Brown mentioned they need to be within 3 miles of the sub-station. Councilman Sullivan suggested break up Tier 3 to prepare for the law so there are not constant changes to the law. Supervisor Beury agreed. Supervisor Beury suggested leaving the kilowatts at 25 for Tier 1 & 2. Jen asked the Town Board to think about what requirements they would want for Tier 3 done differently. Jen discussed the applicability and approvals.

Tier 1- would just have to see the CEO

Tier 2- maybe site plan review for commercial

Tier 3- planning board, special use permit

Town Board will look more in depth.

Jen showed charts on bulk dimensions and NYSERDA recommendations. Supervisor Beury would like the Planning Board to look at these dimensions and make recommendations.

NYSERDA recommended these standards for Tier 3:

Underground utilities

Minimize Impervious Surfaces

Signage

Glare

Lighting

Tree clearing

Fencing

Visual screening

Development on Ag lands

Decommissioning

Fire department access

Corinne said they will base on a project-by-project basis on what to be done.

Supervisor Beury would like Jen, Chris, and Corinne to draft a document so the Town Board could focus on the different areas.

Jen asked the Town Board if they would like her to start with the basic solar law? Supervisor Beury would like the Planning Board to give their recommendations on bulk dimensions so they could have it for the next meeting. Jen lastly asked would the board like a different solar overlay in a different category than we have now. Supervisor Beury said we will stick to what we have now. Councilman Sullivan agreed. Corinne said it might complicate the process to do an overlay.

Workshop was closed at 6:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,