

Minutes of June 8, 2021 Germantown Town Board Solar Law Workshop, via Zoom, commencing at 6:01pm.

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 and welcomed everyone.

Supervisor Beury discussed next steps with public outreach, getting a draft together, circulation to Planning and Zoning Boards, and attorney review.

Jen Crawford discussed lot coverage with the board and the potential options/definitions. The first is lot coverage defined as impervious surfaces. The second is more inclusive and includes all impervious surfaces, along with all other components within the fence. The third is based on the panel area. Impervious surface, focus on environment, based on panel acre or based on percentage and not on acres. The board will also have to decide what percentage lot coverage to include. The board discussed potentially limiting clear cutting 12 months before application and applying percentage lot coverage to open space for Tier III systems. The board asked Jen additional questions concerning clear cutting.

There was a discussion of solar on farmland and wetlands.

Supervisor Beury asked that the draft law be put together so that the board can read it and ask questions, then fine tune it and set up for public comments. Councilmember Suarez asked if Jen could include two different versions for lot coverage using either maximum lot area/size of property or percentage of use. Supervisor Beury also asked Jen to include each of the districts and what solar is permissible in each.

Jen reported that the Planning Board is concerned about the smaller systems and Scenic Viewshed overlay and recommended requiring planning board review for any size system.

The board members thanked Jen.

Workshop closed at 6:27pm

Respectfully submitted,