



TOWN *of* NEW HARTFORD

COUNTY *of* ONEIDA

PLANNING BOARD

The Town of New Hartford Municipal Offices
(At The Orchards)

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Heather Mowat

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Dolores Shaw

Board Members

Lisa Britt
James Decker
Julius V. Fuks, Jr.
John Latini III
Wilmar W. Sifre
Manzur Sikder

TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD PLANNING BOARD MINUTES NOVEMBER 14, 2022

**TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD MUNICIPAL OFFICES
8635 CLINTON STREET, NEW HARTFORD, NEW YORK**

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Chair Heather Mowat at 5:30 P.M. at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. In attendance were Board Members John Latini, Wilmar Sifre, Lisa Britt and Brymer Humphreys. Board Members absent: Julius Fuks, Jr. and Manzur Sikder. Also present was Town Attorney Herbert Cully; Contract Town Engineer John Dunkle; Highway Superintendent Richard Sherman; Codes Officer Lary Gell; and secretary Dory Shaw.

Minutes of the October 27, 2022 Planning Board meeting were addressed. Motion was made by Board Member Brymer Humphreys to approve these minutes as written; seconded by Board Member John Latini. All in favor.

Special Use Permit; Community Power Group LLC for property owned by Humphreys Farms, Inc., New Paris Road/Tibbitts Road/NYS Route 12. Final review. Tax Map # 338.000-3-33.1; Zoning: Agriculture. Mr. Michael Borkowski of Community Power Group and Mr. Matthew Vredenburgh, Landscape Architect, appeared before the Board.

Board Member Brymer Humphreys abstained from participating on this application.

Mr. John D'Amore, resident, addressed the Board stating he agrees with the planting plan that was prepared regarding his property and how it relates to this project. Discussion ensued regarding any value affect to Mr. D'Amore's property.

Contract Engineer John Dunkle has reviewed this application extensively regarding storm water management and maintenance, and is satisfied. He referred to any type of grazing planned for this property.

Town Attorney Cully asked if the plantings will be attached to the approved plan – answer: yes.

Highway Superintendent Richard Sherman addressed mowing maintenance, some type of grazing plan. He referred to an area he had seen and was interested in the way it was kept up. He displayed a picture of what it looked like, no weeds, etc. It was mentioned that grazing increases runoff.

Mr. Vredenburgh presented a planting plan, and he was curious about the existing woodlands to the east – they want to make sure it stays that way. It was indicated this is a landowner question because they aren't leasing that portion of the property. He is just protecting Mr. D'Amore's view. Discussion ensued and it is not a developable parcel.

It was stated by Mr. Humphreys' grandson who was in the audience, that there is no intention of developing the parcel in question that is being addressed, maybe some logging as trees mature.

Board Member Britt addressed planting a pollination/planting mix – yes it will be done – no pesticides; they will maintain the tree line; no tree topping. Also addressed was replacement of solar panels. Mr. Borkowski explained the storage of extra panels which are always in supply in case any need to be replaced. He also referred to how a fire would be handled if it ever happened. These panels withstand hail, etc. All these panels are micromanaged. Repair people are local, i.e., electricians who are trained and also the local fire department—cameras are also on site. Trees will be outside the fence along the road.

Board Member Sifre addressed the proposed maintenance plan, standards around the grass and panels, trees, fences. Contract Engineer John Dunkle mentioned that the trees are adequately sized. (Copy of planting plan is attached).

Town Attorney Cully mentioned the number of votes needed to approve this project as we are down two Board Members and one Board Member tonight recused himself. We will ask the applicant if he wants to continue under these circumstances. The applicant agreed to go forward.

- 1) Motion was made by Board Member John Latini to close SEQR with a negative declaration; seconded by Board Member Wilmar Sifre. All in favor.
- 2) Motion was made by Board Member John Latini to grant Final Approval on the Site Plan for Community Power Group; seconded by Board Member Wilmar Sifre.
- 3) Motion made by Board Member Wilmar Sifre to grant the Special Use Permit with the following conditions:
 - 1) Storm water agreement; 2) SWPPP; 3) approved decommissioning plan; 4) adhere to planting plan

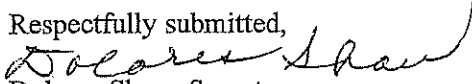
Seconded by Board Member John Latini. All in favor.

The plans will be updated to include what was discussed this evening.

Discussion ensued regarding some possible projects forthcoming in the Town.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Dolores Shaw, Secretary
Planning Board

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