

## Hearing to Extend Moratorium 2/19/2020

Present:

Select Board Members: Brian Barrows, Michael Cray, David Gilbert, Vondell Dunphy, and Jo-Ann Brown

Planning Board Members: Gary Beem, David Leavitt, Laurie Wilber and Virginia Turner

Citizens: Ernest Turner, Joan Leavitt, Lucy & David Atwater, Tyler Norris, Representative Joel Stetkis, Seth Edwards, Harold Wilber, Bob Cleaves (Solar company Rep), Amy Beem, Bill Freudenberger, Herbert Bates, Joshua & Kathryn Burrill, Garth Norris, Corey Dow, Nathan & Ann Foss, Mary Costigan (Attorney representing Ken & Maryellen Fletcher)

Select Board Chair Brian Barrows opened the Hearing at 6:00 pm with the flag salute.

Brian explained the purpose of the Hearing was to discuss the need to extend the Moratorium on Utility Scale Solar Facilities for another 180 days, and welcomed comments.

Public Comments: Mary Costigan wanted to know if action would be taken at Town Meeting in March. At this point Attorney is reviewing Draft Ordinance, there will not be time to finish review and have a hearing before Town Meeting. Bob Cleaves asked that an Ordinance be enacted as soon as possible, with the understanding that it is important that it be done right. Many comments as to importance of putting necessary regulations in place to protect the town. Questions as to what happens to panels or project 20 or 30 years from now if they are no longer viable. Important to have Decommissioning language in ordinance. Questions on Tax status of projects and how that might affect the town. Stated by Bob Cleaves that projects would be owned by Tax Credit Investors. Question asked if Town could opt out of Solar Projects. Laurie Wilber has checked with State, can regulate but may not opt out.

Public Hearing closed at 6:30.

Brian called Select Board meeting to order

Mike made a motion to extend Moratorium on Utility Scale Solar Facilities for 180 days or until an Ordinance is enacted, whichever comes first, Vondell second. All in Favor

Meeting Adjourned at 6:35