

**TOWN OF NORTH EAST, TOWN BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
NORTH EAST-MILLERTON LIBRARY ANNEX
AUGUST 24, 2015**

Members Present:

Supervisor John Merwin
Councilman James Campbell
Councilman Ralph Fedele
Councilman George Kaye
Councilman Steven Merwin

Call to Order:

Supervisor Merwin called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Acceptance of Agenda:

On a motion by Councilman Kaye, seconded by Councilman Fedele the following was

ADOPTED – AYES – 5 (Merwin, Campbell, Fedele, Kaye, Merwin)
NAYS – 0

RESOLVED, to accept the agenda

BQ Energy Presentation on Solar Landfill Project

Paul Curran, Managing Partner of BQ Energy gave a presentation on the Solar Landfill Project on the Town of North East old landfill located at 41 Reagan Rd and said that the purpose of tonight meeting was to give a demonstration of the project and to answer any questions that the public may have on this proposed project.

The Solar Panels would be located on top of the landfill and would be owned by BQ Energy. BQ Energy would make lease payments to the Town of North East for the use of the land. The electricity generated from the Solar Panels would be sold to Vassar College. This project would need approval from the NYS DEC.

Mr. Curran provided a picture of a project that they are involved in Patterson NY on their old landfill. The proposed solar panels are 3ft wide and 5ft long and are tilted 20 degrees to the south.

BQ Energy would be responsible for the trenching, ground rings and installation and maintenance of the solar panels. They would also maintain the grass at the site.

To areas that will be able to see the solar panels will be from the Rail Trail and the other would be directly from the road. The tree line should shield any other view of the proposed solar panels from the property. The targeted schedule for the proposed project would be to submit project

info to the DEC by October and have approvals by January 2016. Construction would start in spring 2016 and could be in operation by summer 2016.

Public Comment Period

Clyde Miller- Asked if the ground was going to settle any further due to the weight from the cement that the solar panels will be located on.

Mr. Curran said that weight of the concrete would be 3 to 4 inches per inch. Calculations will be done to make sure not to much settling.

Bill McGhee- asked if the solar panels would be a fixed panel? Mr. Curran answered yes and the life expectancy was very long.

David Shapiro- asked if they would be driving concrete trucks on the site. Mr. Curran answered no that they would be using a skidsteer to bring the concrete on site.

Mr. Shapiro also asked about the water testing at the site. He also asked why the DEC changed the category of the site in November 2014. Mr. Shapiro said the DEC documentation is faulty.

Anna Kneeland- Said that the proposed Solar Panel would be a sea of glass located in a rural setting and asked what is in it for the Town of North East?

Delora Brooks- asked if the site has been properly remediated for the toxins on the site. Also said that this is a commercial venture and how is the site zoned for this type of project?

Town Engineer Ray Jurkowski- said the DEC had approved the capping of landfill since the inception to the final cover to remediate the site.

Ms. Brooks also asked what would be the benefit to the community of North East. Would we have reduced electric bills?

David Elwell- Read his statement into the record. (Copy is attached to minutes)

Dr. Andrew Wallach- Dr. Wallach read his statement into the record. He wanted to voice his concern about the public safety of the superfund (copy attached to minutes)

Lynn Mordas- Read her statement into the record (copy is attached to minutes)

Peter Klippel- said that he has firsthand experience with what was dumped at the site.

Attorney Hilarie Thomas- as about the site management plan, Mr. Jurkowski said that it has been submitted to the DEC.

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Ms. Thomas also asked what permits and other process would need to be done to see the project go forward.

Town Attorney- Warren Replansky- said that info has not been determined as of yet as this is a public information meeting. The SEQRA has not been done as of yet. Problem with zoning and that needs to be resolved with the Zoning Enforcement Officer on the permits that will be needed.

Ms. Thomas said that solar energy was not listed in our zoning code as one of the special permitted uses.

Mr. Curran said that the start dates of the project are only proposed dates and not set in stone.

Robert Kuhbach- asked what does it cost to build and what is the investment?

Mr. Curran answered that the investment would be 4 million dollars.

Supervisor John Merwin said that all concerns need to be considered and every opportunity for the public to ask these questions.

Town Engineer Ray Jurkowski said that any modifications to the site would have to get approval from the DEC. The DEC is responsible if there is a modification to the cap. They would have to do a long form SEQRA and a coordinated review and lead agency status.

An escrow account has been established and the applicant is paying the cost of the town engineer and attorney for any work associated with this project.

Executive Session involving Litigation:

On a motion by Councilman Campbell, seconded by Councilman Merwin the following was

ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL:

AYE – Supervisor Merwin
AYE – Councilman Fedele
AYE – Councilman Campbell
AYE – Councilman Kaye
AYE- Councilman Merwin

RESOLVED, to go into Executive Session

The Board went into Executive session at 8:25 P.M.

On a motion by Councilman Kaye, seconded by Councilman Campbell the following was

ADOPTED – AYES –5 (Merwin, Campbell, Fedele, Kaye, Merwin)
NAYS – 0

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RESOLVED, to return to regular session at 9:05PM

Adjournment:

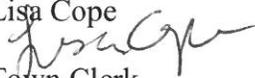
On a Motion by Councilman Kaye, seconded by Councilman Campbell the following was

ADOPTED – AYES – 5 (Merwin, Campbell, Fedele, Kaye, Merwin)
NAYS - 0

RESOLVED, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Cope

Town Clerk

Approved: November 12, 2015

**TOWN OF NORTH EAST
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 22, 2015**

Members Present:

Supervisor Merwin
Councilman Kaye
Councilman Fedele
Councilman Campbell

Members Absent:

Councilman Merwin

Call to Order:

Supervisor Merwin called the meeting to order at 4:05 P.M.

Executive Session:

An executive session to meet with the Town Attorney and Town Engineer in executive session to review the results of the environmental study and the building inspection on the Dutchess County Diesel property.

On a motion by Councilman Kaye, seconded by Councilman Fedele the following was

ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL:

AYE – Supervisor Merwin
AYE - Councilman Fedele
AYE – Councilman Kaye
AYE- Councilman Campbell
ABSENT- Councilman Merwin

RESOLVED, to go into Executive Session

The Board went into Executive Session at 4:05 P.M.

On a motion by Councilman Campbell, seconded by Councilman Kaye the following was

ADOPTED – AYES – 4 (Fedele, Kaye, Campbell, Merwin)
NAYS – 0
ABSENT- 1(Merwin)

RESOLVED, to return to Regular Session of the meeting at 4:50 P.M

Adjournment:

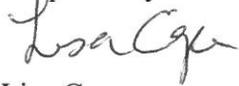
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On a motion by Councilman Fedele, seconded by Councilman Campbell the following was

ADOPTED – AYES - 4 (Fedele, Kaye, Campbell, Merwin)
NAYS – 0

RESOLVED, to adjourn the meeting, the meeting adjourned at 4:51 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lisa Cope
Town Clerk

Approved: October 8, 2015