

TOWN OF LEWISTON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

July 8, 2019

PRESENT: Chairman J. Wolfgang; J. Allen; D. Balassone; V. Polka; B. Davey;

EXCUSED: Z. Collister; M. Feldman

GUESTS: Robert Lannon Town Engineer, Kathy Galanti also from GHD

1. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:37PM. However, the Town Board was in executive session so Engineer's presentation was on hold until 7:30PM.

2. At 7PM Marc Keward from Erdman Anthony Consulting Engineers arrived for a presentation on constructing and operating a 7.2 +/- MW (DC) ground mounted utility grade Community solar energy system on a 97.65 +/- acre parcel of agricultural land at 4352 Williams Rd in Ransomville, N.Y. owned by Richard Piva. (solar panel farm)

Chairman Wolfgang noted that he was not informed of the presentation. Mr. Keward stated that the Building Department scheduled him. The Commission agreed to hear his proposal.

After his presentation and questions from the Commission, Chairman Wolfgang stated there will be no negative declaration today. The proposal needs to be sent to the Planning Board and then the Engineer will have us respond to Parts 2 and 3 of the Assessment Form.

J. Allen moved to send the documents to the Planning Board. D. Balassone seconded.

Carried 5-0.

3. At 7:30PM the Town Board arrived in the audience for our scheduled informational meeting with the Engineer regarding the proposed Town Riverfront Park site, so we could begin.

Kathy Galanti, from GHD, spoke about the report. She gave a short history of the lagoons and where they are located. She also gave a snapshot of the area. She stated that the bottom line, as stated in the report, was that arsenic was detected at high levels which she stated was to be found in many areas in Western New York because of past farming. After a fourth round of sampling, results were consistent with other samplings except one other area was identified with arsenic.

Chairman Wolfgang stated that we recognize the value of the park for our population. D. Balassone asked how can the property be safe? Ms. Galante stated the it can be covered effectively. Passive recreational activity there is recommended. She stated that this site is not identified in a State program for removal of anything. She stated that active recreation can be designated because we meet the criteria except for the arsenic which we can cover.

Chairman Wolfgang asked if a final design has been completed. It was stated by Mr. Lannon that it has not been finalized. Concrete slabs can be used to seal the arsenic present. Ms. Galanti stated that the recent State Park on Buffalo's waterfront shows how to manage different areas where there are chemicals.

J. Allen aired a concern about a need for light poles and the deep digging into the soil needed. Ms. Galanti stated that the area just has to be managed correctly when planning for different areas.

Chairman Wolfgang asked how the 2 ft sampling was decided upon. Ms. Galanti stated that it comes from State Regulations.

Chairman Wolfgang acknowledged that the majority of the Town Board was in the audience but they had no questions.

Amy Witryol, from the audience asked to speak. She shared with the Commission a document entitled "Allowable Constituent Levels for Imported Fill or Soil". She also had a list of written questions to ask the Town Engineer, Mr. Lannon about the samplings. She requested that he respond in writing to them. He agreed. J. Allen requested that Mr. Lannon's answers to Ms. Witryol's questions be shared with the Environmental Commission. Mr. Lannon agreed.

Chairman Wolfgang asked if the park is approved, will there be future monitoring of the site? Ms. Galanti stated that there would be no need for the monitoring.

B. Davey made a motion to adjourn. J. Allen seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

FUTURE MEETINGS:	AUGUST 12, 2019	6:30PM
	SEPT. 10, 2019	7PM
	OCT. 7, 2019	7PM
	NOV. 12, 2019	7PM
	DEC. 10, 2019	7PM

Submitted by,

Victoria Polka (acting secretary)