

Village of Aurora Board of Trustees October 22, 2019 Work Session Minutes

The meeting was held at the Aurora Firehouse Meeting Room at 3:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Bonnie Bennett, Trustees Grace Bates, Matt Bianconi, Janet Murphy (4:00 p.m.) and Kit Van Orman

Others Present

Village and Other Officials: Village Clerk Ann Balloni, County Legislator Keith Batman, Village Attorney Tom Blair, Planning Board member Pat Foser, and ZBA member Laura Holland

Wells College: Director of Sustainability Marian Brown

Members of the Public: Arthur Bellinzoni, Barbara Blom, Marie Dentes, Dimitrius Dimopoulos, Robin Driskel, Virgil Farlow, and Attilio Rezzonico

Call to Order: Mayor Bennett called the work session to order at 3:45 p.m. and gave a review of the solar law discussions and a synopsis of the solar presentation on August 20 by Mr. Voss from Barton & Loguidice. Mr. Voss was hired as a consultant to give a recommendation on regulating solar arrays in the village.

The Village Board discussed the following points:

- Allowing large solar arrays in the Institutional Zone only
- Re-zoning Wells College property on Poplar Ridge Road from Agricultural/Residential to Institutional
- Alternative sites for Wells College array in the /Town of Ledyard
- Legislating based on kilowatts due to evolving technology
- Locating arrays on non-productive sites
- Locating arrays on sites that require limited clear cutting
- Potential future development of the south end of the village
- The Village's Right-of-First Refusal on Wells College property along the lake and on Poplar Ridge Road
- 25+ years, minimal, lifespan for solar panels and possibly 49-99 year leases
- Inns of Aurora development
- Comprehensive Plan, Generic Environmental Impact Statement and Zoning Law considerations

Trustee Bianconi left the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Mr. Blair left the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Adjournment: On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Balloni
Village Clerk