Town of Sharon

Municipal Solar Oversight Committee

Minutes for 3/21/22 held on Zoom

**Welcome**

Committee Attendees: George Aronson, Chris Pimentel, Xander Shapiro, Rob Maidman, Silas Fyler, David Ruggiero

Guest Attendees: Abutters: Terry Greenstein Siddharth Jeevan, Glen Silverman. DSD (developer): Tim Magner, Josh Burdett

**No Minutes.** Prior posted meetings in 2022 did not have a quorum. No decisions or votes were made.

**Recommendation to Select Board on Landfill Solar and Mitigation Recommendations**

Discussing draft letter to Select Board

**Questions from Committee**

George – asked Josh about site area. Is there a legal description of the site to be leased as a basis for the area where solar is located?

Josh - No there is not yet we just have a site plan.

George: we need to do site description to coverage final acreage for site lease.

George – on item 2 town council suggested wording changes.

Silas – Change Solar Oversight Committee name to Municipal Solar Oversight Committee.

Silas – Document jumps between Energy Advisory Committee (EAC) and Municipal Solar Oversight Committee (MSOC) and whose direction should apply. MSOC is a subcommittee to EAC and Economic Development Committee. Who should submit the letter? George will ask town council.

Xander - Just confirming that the letter of recommendation is based on mitigation conditions being met.

George – DSD agreed to provide mitigation off of the property. We need to memorialize that.

Josh -- The mitigation was put in the document on May 25th 2021. It includes mitigation for the Silverman and Stern properties, and other mitigation on landfill. Josh said he would send a document from May 25th 2021 meeting that was discussed with the caveat that the Conservation Commission updated the species of plants keeping the same goals of height and coverage.

George asked for updated version.

Josh said yes he could provide an updated civil design.

Silas – Are we changing PILOT since the leased area is changing?

George – Lease is based on capacity not sq ft. George asked DSD if there is a reason to adjust PILOT? Tim confirmed but will talk to Legal.

Chris – How is interconnection adjusted within the contracts?

George The interconnection adjustment was part of the bid process and incorporated into the site lease.

Xander - Are we in the position to present the recommendation to the Select Board?

George – unclear, depends on conditions and on the turnaround time for site lease document including off site on residence mitigations.

**Open Questions for the Guests**

Sid – We should finalize the site plan before the recommendation.

George – That information was provided / shared in 5/21/21 meeting. What more are you looking for? Sid- how many trees on my lot? What happen to the berm and what type of fence?

Josh – Our understanding that previous plans for Post Closure Use Plan (PCUP) are the plans that we are moving forward with. We are exploring an option for the chain link fence.

Xander – MassDEP was not going to allow berm and that’s why we moved forward with plantings on your lot.

Sid – thought we were still considering some option at least from my line of sight. What is the height of trees to plant?

Xander – Plan was reviewed with abutters, tree warden, committee and included trees, species, height, bird’s eye view and laid out in the post closure use document.

Rob - Ask to view the schematic of the plan?

Josh – suggested reviewing the civil design as given to Conservation Commission (C4.01 through C4.03). These drawing were reviewed in person with abutters in person and on site.

Chris – Did we describe fence?

George – will add a paragraph for option to the chain link fence to the recommendation so that the Select Board can make decision on this.

Committee review civil designs.

Sid – felt like we pushed this through to get post closure use done and not mitigation done. How can we now amend the site going forward?

George – yes getting the post closure use document done was and important but the committee does not have unlimited tolerance for mitigation. The process we have gone through to include abutters, other groups and to meet other regulatory issues before we ever submitted the PCUP to the state was fair and open. Rest of committee agreed with George with Rob asking Sid to put together specific questions to work through with DSD and Kevin Weber.

Glen – Some distrust with the process but appreciate everything the committee has done.

Xander – can we have another meeting to review where we are with the architect?

Terry – ask about the fences position / and tree representation on civil design. Best that can be done for mitigation. Had issues with getting on the present zoom meeting?

Josh – We would comply with committee recommendation to hold another review meeting. DSD would apply an updated site plan.

Committee discussed whether to have one more meeting to have the landscape architect review and explain the proposed vegetative mitigation for the Azalea abutters. Discussion followed. Committee voted in the positive with three yes and two no. Change will be added to the recommendation section 2.

George – reviewed and described all changes so far to the recommendation document – ready to present to Select Board? Committee voted to accept George’s description and moved to vote on whether ready to present when changes are incorporated. Vote was 5-0-0.

**Ames Lot**

Xander - is committee amendable with moving forward the Ames lot across from the High School. Committee verbally said yes.

Next meeting is scheduled for 4th of April, 2022