

Town of Blandford
Planning Board
Public Hearings for
Blandford Sun/Otis Stage Road
And
DG Solar2/George Millard Road
June 5, 2019

Present: Rick Barnard, Sharon Barnard, Julie Mueller, Paul Martin, Sarah Simpson

Call to Order: Rick Barnard, Chair

OPEN HEARING –6:30 PM

Continuation of May 17, 2019 hearing for Otis Stage Road/Blandford Sun
Joe Hamel - Blandford Sun
Kenneth Comia, PVPC
John Farmer, VHB (standing in for Mike Petrin)

Joe Hamel presented for Blandford Sun. Joe confirmed that he has met requirements of Conservation Commission and that hearing has closed.

John Farmer of VHB stated that as long as Conservation Commission is satisfied with conditions then Mike Petrin would recommend that OK per peer review.

Review of notice of decision.

Paul asked why Town is listed as additional insured on insurance policy, John Farmer of VHB confirmed due to potential risk of injury (for example) on site, Town would be held liable as well as Blandford Sun.

Dick Gates of Conservation Commission provided notice of decision and that he feels that contract will protect all parties.

Sharon made a motion to close the public hearing. Sarah seconded. Voted unanimously.

Rick made a motion to accept the waivers sited in item 6. Sarah seconded. Voted unanimously.

Sharon made a motion to accept the notice of decision for the special permit for Blandford Sun/Otis Stage Road with minor editorial changes and insertion of required information (DEP #) and Conservation Commission decision. Sarah seconded. Voted unanimously.

Planning Board adjourned for 5 minutes between hearings (6:55).

Hearing for DG Massachusetts Solar/George Millard Road project 2

Present: Rick Barnard, Sharon Barnard, Julie Mueller, Paul Martin, Sarah Simpson

Call to Order: Rick Barnard, Chair

OPEN HEARING –7:00 PM

Continuation of May 17, 2019 hearing for DG Massachusetts Solar/George Millard Road Project 2

Joe Hamel - DG Solar2

Kevin McCaffery – Civil Engineer for George Millard Road

Review of peer review comments and responses.

Required Documents

The board determined that a surety bond of \$120,000 for decommissioning, as proposed by DG Massachusetts Solar proposed, acceptable.

Visual Impact Mitigation

Joe Hamel, DG Massachusetts Solar advised that he feels that natural tree screening should suffice. He will provide board with photos of natural screening from view access points.

Utility Connections

Joe Hamel advised that project is compliant with Eversource (3-4 poles above ground) otherwise all underground access.

Safety and Environmental Standards

Grading plan to be provided to VHB/board.

DG Massachusetts Solar 2 requested waiver of requirement for installation be covered in natural vegetation to allow geo-synthetic fabric under panels. Stated all other coverage will be natural vegetation. John Farmer of VHB recommended specific wording due to specific project (due to height of panels).

MA DEP Stormwater Regulations

Kevin McCaffery, civil engineer for George Millard Road project, addressed concerns. He stated that they were in process of discussing if landowner would allow access via driveway. Once access was determined they would be able to address multiple points.

Joe Hamel, DG Massachusetts Solar 2 signed 90-day extension from June 5, 2019.

Rick motioned to continue hearing until July 10. Sarah seconded. Voted unanimously.

Hearing continued at 7:30 PM

Town of Blandford
Planning Board Meeting

June 5, 2019

Present: Rick Barnard, Sharon Barnard, Julie Mueller, Paul Martin, Sarah Simpson

Call to Order: Rick Barnard, Chair

OPEN MEETING –7:30 PM

Kyle LaPlante presented plans for Plot 2, seeking board approval. Plot plan meets all requirements for set backs, property lines, buffer zones, etc.

Julie made the motion to accept the proposal for a house at Plot 2. Sharon seconded. Voted unanimously.

Review and voting on April 3 minutes. Sharon motioned to accept April 3 minutes. Rick seconded. Voted unanimously.

Review and voting on May 1 minutes. Sharon made a motion to accept May 1 minutes from public hearing and planning board minutes. Julie seconded. Voted unanimously.

Review and and voting on May 8 minutes. Julie made a motion to accept May 8 minutes. Sharon seconded. Voted unanimously.

Rick introduced Paul Martin.

NEW BUSINESS

Rick advised of MA EOEEA Master Plan for 2020. Sharon moved to decline participation in Development of Blandford Master Plan 2030 and Zoning Map and Bylaw Amendments, with the possibility of reviewing it in one year. Julie seconded. Voted unanimously.

Paul made a motion to declare moritorium on any additional solar projects for 12 months. Sarah seconded. Voted unanimously.

Rick proposed a new laptop for secretary. Julie made the motion to spend funds on laptop for secretary. Sharon seconded. Voted unanimously.

John Bianco/Blair Road proposal to split lots for sale. Board reviewed all set backs and frontage and confirmed lots all meet requirements of bylaws. Board approved and signed off mylar plans and collected fee of \$70 (2 lots at \$35/lot),

OLD BUSINESS

Syncarpha received their building permit. Pre-construction meeting next week. Signage is being created and will be posted ASAP. Conservation Commission has advised that they want project conducted in phases.

Sarah motioned to close the meeting. Sharon seconded. Voted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Simpson, Secretary