

Town of Blandford
Planning Board
Public Hearings for
Blandford Sun/Otis Stage Road
And
DG Solar2/George Millard Road
July 10, 2019

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

Call to Order: Rick Barnard, Chair

OPEN HEARING –6:30 PM

Continuation of June 5, 2019 hearing for DG Solar2/George Millard Road

Kenneth Comia, PVPC
Mike Petrin, VHB
John Thomas, SWCA
Kevin McCaffrey, SWCA
Joe Hamel - Blandford Sun

John Thomas presented for DG Solar2. John advised that changes made since last proposal.

Kein McCaffrey (SWCA) reviewed changes per peer review and addressed points with Mike Petrin.

Mike Petrin states that based upon verbal review it seems that they have satisfied concerns, but until he's able to review actual plans he cannot confirm.

Rick raised concerns on utilizing driveway as access point. Confirmed that driveway is gravel construction. Kevin confirmed that there will be a pad utilized (and is reflected on the plans).

Ken (PVPC) recommended that as long as Mike Petrin of VHB ensures that peer review is satisfied.

Mike stated that if Board is ready to approve, can stipulate approval pending VHB letter stating that all conditions have been met and approved, with exclusion of minor adjustments.

Ken advised that he would type up final conditions for signature.

Sharon moved to close hearing. Julie seconded. Voted unanimously.

Hearing closed at 7:00 PM.

Julie moved to approve waivers. Sarah seconded. Voted unanimously.

Sarah moved to accept site plan review and special permit. Julie seconded. Voted unanimously.

Town of Blandford
Planning Board Meeting
July 10, 2019

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

Call to Order: Rick Barnard, Chair

OPEN MEETING –7:05 PM

Rick moved to approve the June 5, 2019 minutes. Sharon seconded. Voted unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Chris Meyerhof of All Energy Solar (239 Otis Stage Road). Rick advised that bylaws do not specify large vs. small ground mounted photovoltaic array, and is special permit, so would need hearing.

Ken also advised that the applicant can submit with request for waivers (for example, transportation study).

Rick also advised will need check for \$120.00 for mailings and hearing costs, as well as an abutters list.

Chris advised that he would submit requested information. Rick confirmed that once received he will mail notices and do newspaper postings and schedule hearing.

Hemp Bill

Jeanne LeClair, Economic Development Director, Gateway Hilltowns

Jeanne explained that cannabis/marijuana contains 25% TCH, and that hemp contains <.03% THC.

Jeanne also explained that in MA, if you want to grow hemp you are required to submit a request to Dept of Agricultural Resources for testing and is mandated by State law, therefore, there should be no need to add/amend bylaws.

Ken and Rick discussed contract renewal with PVPC and how it has worked in the past with other PVPC representatives.

Rick explained that he is seeking individual project costs. Rick also explained that there is a 22 hour surplus credit for mapping for the bylaws with PVPC. Ken advised that he will follow up with Becky to confirm the status (now that AG has approved bylaws).

Rick also requested bill from PVPC for last two solar projects.

Ken will review it with his supervisor and will submit billing information for solar projects.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken asked when solar was first introduced into bylaws. Julie advised possibly 2008 and also confirmed that original was written by PVPC. Ken advised that he would need to confirm when adopted. Ken to update moratorium proposal. Rick will speak with Josh in regard to adding items to warrant for town meeting.

Proposed to have public hearing the same night as the town meeting to allow both bylaw amendments and moratorium for solar.

Review of bylaw changes. Julie motioned to accept bylaw changes for presentation to town meeting. Sarah seconded. Voted unanimously.

Sarah moved to close the meeting. Sharon seconded. Meeting closed at 8:20.

Respectfully Submitted, Sarah Simpson, Secretary