

## **Solar Committee Minutes – October 10, 2022**

Members present: Cynthia Beauvais, Rick Crouthamel, Al Grignon, Carrie Peabody, Bill Nunan

Absent: Kris Kelesian

Guests: Dona Cuppett

### **Review/Approve Minutes:**

- The minutes of October 3, 2022 were reviewed/approved for posting on the Town website.

### **Project Workplan/Status:**

- Al presented an updated workplan of project tasks. Project is at 71% complete and are complete with task #60.
- Team consensus is the project should meet the moratorium deadline and a request for an extension is not needed at this time. We will assess our progress in December to determine if an extension is required outside of the January 2023 date of expiration.
- Al will update the project workplan and present to the team at the Oct. 17 meeting.

### **Survey:**

- The final tally for the results is 71% (75 NO), 29% (31 YES), 106 total surveys received.
- The team agreed upon 4 areas of concern:
  - Visual Impact
  - Environmental Concerns
  - Safety & Health
  - Cost/Benefits
- Decommissioning was removed as the 5<sup>th</sup> area of concern due to limited data.
- Bill has generated a Summary of Survey findings for posting on the Town Website (see attached).
- Carrie is posting the final Survey results to the Town on October 12.

### **Ordinance development:**

- Al to address incorporation of Commercial Large Scale SES with the Planning Board along with permits / Fee Tables.
- The Committee agreed that a restrictive ordinance should not be pursued per past MMA ordinance recommendations.
- A blocking ordinance with standards to limit commercial Medium-Small scale SES was agreed upon as the goal.
- Removal of Commercial Large-Scale and residential aspects from scope.
- The Comprehensive Plan Committee is taking up the Land Use ordinance on October 12, Cynthia to report detail at our next meeting.
- Carrie produced a Solar Ordinance draft as a “work version” for review/discussion. The team agreed on the following adjustments:
  - Large-Scale & residential are no longer within scope.

- Focus on Small to Medium-Scale commercial SES only
- Combine Section 10 of working ordinance, Standards for Approval
- Review definitions
- X-ref where able to Land Use and Shoreland ordinances
- Incorporate blocking standards / limitations
- Define setback standard – 200 ft
- SES panels - 50 ac. Limit
- Limitation on location within town boundaries – landfill only, not blueberry barren
- Prefer panels made in USA/Canada
- The team will make edits and submit comments at our meeting on Monday, October 17. Comments and changes will be incorporated into the working version.
- Word will be the preferred format for our work. PDF editing is not as user-friendly.
- Version control will be used to track ordinance work moving forward.

**Meeting Schedule:**

- The Solar Committee will meet on **Monday, October 17, 2022 at 5PM at the Town Office.**