

PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 12th, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call;

All board members were present, plus Bruce Palmer (Planning and Zoning Administrator), Tammy Bressette(Assistant Planning and Zoning administrator), Daren Griffith and two other representatives from Cypress Creek Renewables, 24 other guests.

The agenda was approved unanimously

The minutes from the Planning Commission meeting on June 10th, 2019 were approved

There was no Public Comment

There were no PA33 reports

Secretary Thon gave the reports from the Township Board

There was no Old Business

New Business:

Application for Special Use SPR-19-02 Proposal by Cypress Creek Renewables

Bruce Palmer introduced Daren Griffith the main spokesman for Stoneheart Solar whose parent company is Cypress Creek Renewables. They proposed to develop a 2MW solar energy facility on a roughly 38 acre tract of land near the intersection of Pierce and Mackinaw Roads. Impact to the surface of the ground would be minimal and there would be a small permanent structure to house the inverter.

All solar components will comply with the current edition of the National Electrical Code. The property is zoned Agricultural/Residential and will require a site plan. The portion of the property that is nearest the corner of the two roads will be open and not contain solar panels so that the view of drivers approaching the intersection will not be obstructed. The only noise that will normally occur at the facility will be that of the inverter starting up and that is comparable to a residential AC unit kicking in.

This farm could power 300-400 single family homes. The project will cost approximately 2.4 million dollars to complete. After completion the project would be checked about once or twice a quarter so there would be very little traffic into the site. The solar farm would create the power and then sell it to Consumers Energy.

After a lengthy question and answer period by neighbors and interested parties of the proposed solar farm, Chairman Kiss ended the question and answer period and thanked the solar power company representatives for the presentation.

Chairman Kiss then stated that a public hearing on the matter would be scheduled for September 9th, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m. prior to the next regular meeting of the Planning Commission.

Comments:

Tammy Bressette stated that the DPW was looking to fill two positions, one a part time and one a full time, and that anyone who knew someone who was interested could have them apply at the Township Hall no later than Friday, August 16th, 2019.

Bruce said that the groundwork for the Hilton hotel construction had begun this week.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. and the next meeting is scheduled for September 9th, 2019.