

**Town of Otisfield  
Planning Board Minutes  
Town Office Annex  
March 8, 2022  
7:00 PM**

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chair – Karen Turino.
2. **Attendance:** Members present were Chair – Karen Turino, Vice Chair – Stan Brett, Otis Brown, Herb Olson, Alternate/Recording Secretary - Scott Arn & Alternate - John Ywoskus. (Absent - Pauline Flagg)

Secretary: Tanya Snow

Code Enforcement Officer: Fred Collins

Selectmen: Hal Ferguson & Rick Micklon

3. **Announcement of Quorum:** Board has a quorum.
4. **Approve Secretary's Report:**
  - A. Regular Meeting Minutes from November 9, 2021. \*Motion to accept minutes. SB/OB – Unanimous.
5. **Discussion & Comments from Public:**
  - A. None.
6. **Residence - Based Business Applications:**
  - A. None.
7. **Shoreland Zoning Applications:**
  - A. None.
8. **Miscellaneous Applications:**
  - A. None.
9. **Subdivision Application:**
  - A. None.
10. **Upcoming Dates:**
  - A. Planning Board Workshop March 29, 2022 at 7:00 PM
  - B. Planning Board Meeting April 12, 2022 at 7:00 PM.
  - C. Planning Board Workshop April 26, 2022 at 7:00 PM.
11. **Discussion & comments from Code Enforcement Officer:**
  - A. CEO wanted to thank Karen and the PB members for a very thorough job on the Solar Farm project located at Nutting Ledge, Route 121. It was an extensive project and they all did a great job.

## 12. Discussion & comments from Board:

- A. Solar Farm Discussion: The BOS requested the PB members DRAFT the Solar Farm Ordinance. RM: BOS are looking for this to be a stand-alone Solar Farm Ordinance and AVCOG is available as a resource if needed. KT provided Lovell, Freeport, Mechanic Falls, Audubon and Bethel Ordinances as templates for PB members to review as a guide in this process.

### DISCUSSION:

- Each Town refers to their Solar Farm Ordinance with different names, we need to decide what Otisfield should name its own Ordinance.
- Restrictions will be needed in the Ordinance. PB members need to define categories, ie: "community" or "residential community". Community Based Solar Farm would need to be defined (The electricity would be sold back to CMP in the form of credits and the rest of it, could be sold as co-op credits).
- Storing the energy on site will need to be considered and discussed at length with pros and cons. On site storage should be closely reviewed because batteries will eventually go bad and corrode. Both the panels and batteries could be a potential fire hazard and the FD will need to know where these **systems** are and how they can extinguish a fire safely. Much more discussion is needed on the storage of battery units.
- Size definitions will need to be determined, and all agree size restrictions on array needs to be clearly defined.
- All definitions will be used and added to the Otisfield Definitions Ordinance currently in place. Definitions will need to be clear and precise.
- A decision will need to be made on what will go before the CEO, ie; would residential go through the Code Office. Brainstorm on what will or will not go before the CEO.
- Do we want a maximum acreage or KW limit? If so, we need to decide what that should be.

All agree that the Bethel Ordinance had the most detail and was most likely the newest and most updated. PB members will review Bethel's Ordinance and mark it up with any additions or omissions they feel are necessary and bring to next meeting.

\*Selectmen are offering to cover professional expertise and consulting service fees, to assist the Board as needed.

## 13. Unfinished Business:

14. **Adjournment:** With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM. SB/OB -Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tanya Snow, Secretary



Approved by: Karen Turino, Chair  
Otisfield Planning Board  
Approved on: