



TOWN OF GARLAND
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PLANNING BOARD
Public Hearing Minutes

Tuesday, 3/1/2023 - Garland Town Office - 6:00pm

- Call to order and quorum: 6:00

Board: Ed Hummel, Nathan Pitts, Ursula Bernier, Peter Devine, Kandie Cleaves

Public Attendees: Elmer Wing, James Wing, Kevin Cleaves, Robert Barryhill, Sue Barryhill, John Sears, Regina Fick, Victory Glenar, Tom Todd, Lynn Olsen, Sue Watson, Roman Kresina, David Carmichael, David Howell

- Public Hearing on proposed Solar Array Ordinance for the Town of Garland, Maine: Input was offered by the public and discussed. The most significant topics were:
 1. By law solar arrays are not taxable, therefore no notification of intent to build should be required.
 2. Residential-Business Solar Energy Systems should not be discouraged, therefore there should be no fee or requirement to submit a notification of intent to build. Likewise there should be no requirement for Liability Insurance nor requirement for roof-mounted RBSES have confirmation from an appropriately licensed professional that the roof can support the system.
 3. Any modifications to PRSES or RBSES do not require notification to the town or approval by approval by the Code Enforcement Officer.
 4. The cost estimates for removal of facilities should be based annually on the consumer price index or other measure to ensure that the town have no burden.
 5. The developer should be responsible for any additional training or equipment that the fire department might find necessary.

6. The height of the panels above ground level should be considered as a way to reduce environmental impact of any industrial or commercial system.
7. The town should consider asking for a legal review of this ordinance.

Specific suggested changes are shown in a marked up document attached. No changes were voted on by the Planning Board at the public hearing. The proposed ordinance along with suggestions will be taken up at the next regular Planning Board meeting, March 14, 2023.

- Adjournment: 7:23 pm

Motion: Ed

Second: Peter

Vote: 5/0/0