



# **TOWN OF RANDOLPH, VERMONT**

**Zoning and Planning Office**

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## **Planning Commission Meeting Minutes Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, 6:30 PM Grant Camp, Hebard Hill Road, Randolph**

Members Present: Paul Rea, Sonny Holt, Perry Armstrong (via phone), Michael Tragner, Miles Hooper, Camden Walters. Municipal Staff: Josh Jerome. Public: Jim Merriam

1. Mr. Holt called the meeting to order at: 6:36PM
3. Public to be heard: - None
4. Approval of Agenda: approved 6-0
5. Approval of Minutes (Wednesday, March 11, 2020) Motion by Paul Rea, second by Miles Hooper: approved 6-0
6. New Business:

a. East Randolph Solar Array:

Mr. Jim Merriam, CEO of Norwich Solar Technologies (NST) came before the Commission to present his proposal for a 500 kW-AC community solar array to be installed on a 5 acre parcel located at 1624 VT Route 14 S, in East Randolph at Lat: 43.91720° N Lon: 72.55872° W (approximate). This parcel is located on the Gifford farm. Total energy output of the array will be between 800 and 1000 megawatt hours per year, generated from 2160 solar panels. The energy produced will stay in Vermont and will be connected to the local distribution grid operated by Green Mountain Power. There will be no future expansion as Vermont limits net metering projects to 500 kW.

The site is well hidden from view. Abutters to the site will be given detailed packages of NST's proposal. Mr. Merriam is in the permitting phase of the installation and will be requesting a Certificate of Public Good from the Vermont Public Utilities Commission. In this regard, he is seeking a letter of support for 'preferred site' designation from the Town and Regional Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission found that the East Randolph Solar Array was in accordance with the Town Plan. Motion was made by Paul Rea, and seconded by Camden Walters, to support Norwich Solar Technologies' proposal for a 500 kW-AC solar array to be installed on the 5 acre parcel in East Randolph. Approved 6-0.

b. Randolph Sign Ordinance:

Work was completed on the Randolph Sign Ordinance. Final edits were made to ensure that the ordinance contained 'content neutral signage code' based on the Supreme court's decision of Reed v. Town of Gilbert. Motion was made to approve and forward to the Selectboard. Motion by Perry Armstrong, second by Miles Hooper approved 6-0

7. Other Business: None

8. Adjournment: 7:48

NOTE: This was an outdoor meeting and all attendees complied with VT State requirements: Face masks and Social Distancing were implemented and names were logged for contact tracing.

Approved as edited:

Submitted by:

//Sonny Holt//