

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

WALNUT TOWNSHIP, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, OH - BOARD OF TRUSTEES

11420 Millersport Rd., Millersport, OH 43067

SOLAR ENERGY RESOLUTION HEARING MINUTES

July 19, 2023 – 6:00 PM

Township Officials present/absent:

Officials present – Trustee William R. Yates, Trustee, Douglas G. Leith and Fiscal Officer, Pam Underwood. Trustee Horn was not present.

Department Heads present:

Zoning Inspector – Mike Berry; Recording Secretary and Fiscal Accounting Clerk - Tammy Oliver; Recycling - Mike King.

Number of members of the public present: 96 as recorded on Sign-in sheets.

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Chairman Yates and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Advertised Purpose of Hearing:

The purpose of the Hearing was to hold a Public Hearing on a Zoning Resolution Amendment to the Zoning Resolution to regulate residential, commercial, and industrial solar energy systems.

Information provided to the Trustees *prior* to the proceedings:

Exhibit # SEA-A: Correspondence from EDF Renewables regarding the Eastern Cottontail Solar Project.

Exhibit # SEA-B: Regional Planning staff letter supporting the recommendation of the modification of the proposed amendments to the Walnut Township Zoning Resolution regarding solar energy systems.

Exhibit #SEA-C: Email Correspondence from Amy Brown-Thompson, Civil Division Chief with the Fairfield County Prosecutor's office with an attachment with recommended modifications to the proposed Solar Resolution.

Opening Summary Comments:

Chairman, William Yates, Trustee stated that the Trustees were meeting to review the proposed Zoning Resolution Amendment to its Zoning Resolution to regulate residential, commercial, and industrial solar energy systems.

Chair William R. Yates administered the "Oath Affirmation or Declaration" to those persons who were testifying. Major majority of the Public in attendance rose to take "Oath Affirmation or Declaration" .

Discussion:

There was a small number of the public spoke in support of the Solar Project and against the amended resolution.

Much of the public, who were residents, spoke strongly against the solar project and supported the amended resolution.

After the public spoke, Chairman Yates stated that right before the hearing, the Trustees had received a legal review to the proposed solar amendment from Amy Brown-Thompson, Civil Division Chief with the Fairfield County Prosecutor's office. The review included suggested modifications of the amendment to stay in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code. A motion was made by Trustee Yates and seconded by Trustee Leith to cancel the Special Meeting that was scheduled immediately following the Hearing so that the Trustees could review the information that they had received from Amy Brown-Thompson, Civil Division Chief with the Fairfield County Prosecutor's office before approving the amendment. The Trustees will take up the discussion of the amendment at the Regular Trustee meeting on August 1, 2023 at 7:00 pm. The motion passed with 2 yes votes.

A motion to adjourn the hearing at 8:30 pm was made by Trustee Yates and seconded by Trustee Leith. The motion passed with 2 yes votes.

Minutes Recorded By: Tammy Oliver

Pam Underwood, Fiscal Officer

William R. Yates , Chairman

Douglas G. Leith

Terry Horn was not present.