

## **TOWN OF CASTLETON SELECT BOARD MINUTES**

### **SPECIAL MEETING**

**Monday, May 16, 2022 6:45 p.m.**

**Zoom Virtual Public Meeting**

**Zoom Meeting Recording Link:**

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/EOfyqRR3a2UfxxHr\\_u\\_8TGOlqXE\\_9KBYvPcdC0p75GF4uPhbWtQVbAVkCgWSaHFB.FF8V0f7C\\_HBp1R3j](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/EOfyqRR3a2UfxxHr_u_8TGOlqXE_9KBYvPcdC0p75GF4uPhbWtQVbAVkCgWSaHFB.FF8V0f7C_HBp1R3j)**

**ATTENDING VIA ZOOM:** Jim Leamy, Chair, Michael Jones, Town Manager, Richard Combs, Mary Lee Harris, Joseph Mark, Parliamentarian, Keith Whitman, Jr., Rutland Herald Reporter

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Select Board Chair, Jim Leamy at 6:49 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**ML Harris made a motion to approve the agenda. R. Combs seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carries 4-0.**

### **DISCUSSION REGARDING PLANNING COMMISSION'S POSITION TO SUPPORT STONE MILL SOLAR LLC CURRENT PROJECT**

Board has a communication from J. Bruno, Chair of the Planning Commission with regard to the Stone Mill Solar project. R. Combs asked if they should agree with or support or what they are looking for. J. Leamy stated the letter indicates the Planning Commission's concerns with the project and he believes the board needs to write a letter to the RRPC stating the position of the selectboard if they so desire. ML Harris stated she felt they should do that, with a position of the project is an encroachment on the Town and is unsightly. She feels they should put more thought into these projects before agreeing to it. M. Jones stated he had a conversation with the Town Attorney, who felt item #1 would be a bankruptcy attorney question, not a lot of discussion on items #2, #3 and #4 except concerning the zoning in industrial and agricultural areas. J. Mark felt when he read the April 12 document the Planning Commission had signed, there wasn't a lot of space for challenge and limits what the Board can do. Whether he likes the proposal or not, he is not inclined to respond to this letter. **ML Harris made a motion that the topic be tabled for more discussion and information with the Planning Commission and with the solar developer as well if appropriate. J. Mark seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carries 4-0.**

### **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

ML Harris stated she was approached by someone that would like to make her farm into solar. She personally is not in favor of the solar fields, but sometimes one has to look at all options and she wants it out and known that she has been approached, which is just a comment. J. Mark stated that in some ways, the final question in the Planning Commission's May 12<sup>th</sup> letter is most interesting to him, which has nothing to do with solar developer but the PUC, what is regarding the limit that can be placed on the proliferation of the fields in the town. It seems that should be directed to the PUC to get some guidance or sense of where they stand on it all. ML Harris it is scary to her that they seem to only have control over smaller farms on the local level, there is nothing they can do with these larger ones.

### **6:58 pm-ADJOURN**

**ML Harris made a motion to adjourn at 6:58 p.m. J. Mark seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted

Allison Harvey  
Recording Secretary