

**Greenvale Township Minutes**  
**Solar IUP Public Hearing**  
**March 29 2016**

6PM meeting was called to order with pledge of allegiance.

Officers Present: Supervisor David Roehl, Supervisor Duane Fredrickson, Clerk Linus Langer, and Chair Gregory Langer.

Guests Present: Hermann & Barb Ohmann, Charles Muckey, Brian & Sue Evenson, Bob & Lila Winter (applicants), Mike & Kris Henry, Edith Nelson, Maynard Bolton, Jerry Bolton, Mary Hanks, Jerry & Diane Gehler. SunEdison (applicants) not present.

Attendees asked to silence devices.

Chair Langer read the Public Notice as published in the Northfield News.

Langer explained application was withdrawn, so determinations can't be made from today's meeting. Follow up decision meeting can therefore be canceled.

Reviewed agenda. Roehl moved to accept agenda. Fredrickson made second and motion passed.

Langer asked if people wanted to introduce themselves.

Copy of speaking rules was read by Chair.

Bob Winter said he would accept questions related to him.

Langer opened meeting to comments.

Bob Winter spoke about 8 x 24 panels that would not be seen by road. He would lease land and there would be underground cables.

Fredrickson has visited a SunEdison site and installation was first class. Question about "buzz" was not issue.

Mary Hanks asked about acres and maintenance and covering...

Kris Henry asked about purpose to grid vs homeowner?

Brian Evenson asked if it would be expandable past 40 acres?

Fredrickson noted County has moratorium and is scheduling public hearings.

Kris Henry asked if the Township would issue permit or public utility commission? What if there was a larger project? Winter explained Township does zoning.

Langer recapped work done on wind energy systems zoning...  
We have 3 zones: ag preserve, shoreland, and wetlands.

This effort is for a commercial installation, so accommodating would require other meetings. Costs would be ideally covered by applicants. If Community supports project there will likely be other projects.

Kris asked if other townships have adopted ordinances?

Sue Brockman asked if zoning would be changed for one applicant or all applicants?

Fredrickson said there could be limits and conditions or provisions. Distance from wetlands, etc...

Kris asked if township rewrote zoning it may open door for others to come in... at what limit does the PUC come in? Do we know those criteria?

Fredrickson said totally opinion, but better if PUC stays out.

Mary Hanks said there is one going in at Marshall MN at 40MW and PUC is involved.

Langer mentioned incentives are statewide, not local...

Kris asked if we could have a limitation to size of project?

Langer explained public hearing process would be way to express and voice citizen concerns.

Mary Hanks said Marshall project is going on prime farm land. Ag Land preservation is a concern too and it is something that is out there.

Jerry Bolton asked how long ago did we do wind energy zoning? August 2011, five years ago but with no new request/build activity so far.

Brian asked for clarification if it would be for commercial solar generation?

Langer said we have a Planner we work with and the Township Association is a resource too who can help if we need it.

Chuck Muckey said he couldn't hear & would leave but is not against it...

Fredrickson asked if there were other comments?

Kris Henry asked Winter if there were other requests? Winter said reason his site was chosen because of 3 phase lines. Others were contacted...

Mary Hanks brought up spreading out over township or have clustering consideration? Spread out or a local 10mw or a couple 50mw's?

Mike Henry asked about 110 acres for sale... Bob said he leases it back. Mike wondered if that property would be suitable for solar? Bob said they were approached for solar too.

Roehl inquired about power company. Excel has accepted it on 17<sup>th</sup> of March as far as Winter knows.

Jerry Gehler asked how long is the lease for and what about take down? Winter said 25 years with option to walk away anytime, renewable every year.

With no further questions Board closed hearing at 7:40

Langer moved to cancel April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting and Roehl made second. Motion passed.

Langer move to adjourn with second from Fredrickson. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Linus Langer | Clerk