



Village of Cambridge
ENERGY SUBCOMMITTEE Minutes
Thursday, February 18, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Due to the CCOVID-19 Pandemic, Including Federal, State and County Emergency orders limiting crowds, this meeting is being held via teleconference. Member of the Village Board and public may attend by:

Dial-in number (US): (701) 802-5156

Online meeting ID: bgoeckner

Join the online meeting: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/bgoeckner>

PUBLIC HEARING

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** Trustee Rose called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Members present: Trustees Rose, Kumbier, McNally and Milsap. Other present: Lisa Moen, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer; Barb Goeckner, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator; Gary and Laura Zibell; Boxy Engelstad; Mark Cook; Marcia Barnes; John Barnes; Tina and Duane Hinchley; Dan Litchfield, Tracy Fillback, Aiden O’Conner – Invenergy; Mary Gjermo; Rob Danielson, Eric Wittwer; Karyn Saemann, Cambridge News; Janice Redford; Dean Lund; Tara Vasby; Paul Hausz; Christine Klopp, Christine Horst; Kris Breunig; Heather Allen, Renew Wisconsin; Heidi Elliot.
2. **Proof of Posting:** The agenda was posted on the doors of the upper and lower level of the Amundson Community Center, Cambridge Post Office, Hometown Bank, and the Village Web Site.
3. **Public Hearing regarding Proposed Koshkonong Solar Project:**
 - Aiden O’Connor introduced himself and his position with Invenergy. He offered to give a presentation to the Subcommittee. Shared that a local office is opening at 114 S. Pleasant Street and will hold office hours every 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.
 - Roxy Engelstad cited state Statute 196.491(3)(d)6 relating to the approval of electric generating facilities. She shared concerns relating to impact on land use and development plans/ our Comprehensive Plan as it relates to growth moving into the future.
 - Mary Gjermo shared concerns that we do not have the information we need on the proposed project. Concerns of public safety, cost if batteries are added to the project, reclamation – do they have examples of successful reclamation?
 - Dan Litchfield, Invenergy, offered that they are willing to answer questions.
 - Heidi Elliot, referred to the comments and questions that had been posted on the google doc and looking for Invenergy’s responses.
 - Marcia Barnes share concerns related to the ETJ Zone and what would be included in it. Commented that the solar panels are not working in Texas right now with the weather conditions.
 - Jeff Milsap also shared concerns relating to the ETJ and the limits it would place on future growth.
 - Heather Allen, Renew Wisconsin, is supportive of renewable energy, the positive health, and economic impacts
 - Eric Wittwer questioned how they chose this site, outside of the Village; impact to schools – how the utility aid payments affect the schools, scale of the project.
 - John Barnes – we are looking at a million solar panels; toxic chemicals; decommission/reclamation issues.

4. **Adjournment of Public Hearing.** Milsap made a motion to adjourn the public hearing, seconded by McNally. Motion carried.

Agenda

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2. **Proof of Posting:** The agenda was posted on the doors of the upper and lower level of the Amundson Community Center, Cambridge Post Office, Hometown Bank and the Village Web Site.
3. **Approval of Minutes from February 4, 2021:** McNally made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Kumbier. Motion carried.

4. **New Business:** Discussion and Possible Action Regarding:

a. Possible Future Steps:

- i. **Information gathering:** We continue to request comments and questions from our constituents. They can submit them on the google doc or through email.
- ii. **Letter of Intent to Petition PSC** – Invenergy will be submitting to the PSC in April. We can submit our Letter of Intent to Petition and follow up with questions at a later date. Milsap felt we need to engage legal counsel to protect the Village and our constituents, to help navigate questions such as the ETJ and future growth. McNally commented that there are varying opinions on the Committee and the Board. Devil is in the details. Are we opposed to the entire project, placement in the ETJ, we need these answers first.

Mc Nally made a motion to recommend to the Village Board to hire legal counsel as we move forward in this process, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000, seconded by Kumbier. Motion carried.

Trustee Kris Breunig questioned if it is counter intuitive to hire legal counsel until we know our final position.

- iii. **Compiling questions/comments/concerns** – we will formulate these at a future meeting.
- iv. **Sharing of questions/comments/concerns with Invenergy, PSC, other municipalities:** They will be shared once formulated.
- v. **Meeting with other municipalities:** discussion about inviting Town of Christiana, Town of Deerfield, Village of Rockdale and Village of Deerfield representatives to a future meeting to share their comments. Moen will send an email invitation to the Clerks and ask them to share with their memberships. Milsap and McNally will also reach out to elected officials.

- b. **Set Date for Next Meeting:** McNally made a motion to meet on March 4, at 6:30 p.m. Seconded by Milsap. Motion carried.

5. **Update/Other Items for Future Consideration**

- a. Nick Maas will not be able to serve as a member of the Subcommittee. We will look for one additional public Member.
- b. Invite Invenergy to present at a future meeting.

6. **Adjournment:** Kumbier made a motion to adjourn, seconded by McNally. Motion carried. Rose adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Lisa Moen, Village Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator

