

**TOWN OF HILLSDALE  
COLUMBIA COUNTY, NEW YORK**

**YEAR: 2022  
RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

At a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Hillsdale, Columbia County, New York, duly held via the Zoom online meeting platform on the 12th day of April, 2022, the following Resolution came before the Board:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 26 of the year 2016, passed by unanimous consent of the Hillsdale Town Board on May 10, 2016, the Town of Hillsdale joined the Climate Smart Community (“CSC”) program administered by the NYS Department of Conservation’s Office of Climate Change and pledged to become a Climate Smart Community; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Hillsdale has completed various high impact environmental actions and been designated a Clean Energy Community (“CEC”) by the NYS Energy Research and Development Authority (“NYSERDA”); and

WHEREAS, the CSC and CEC programs include actions for local municipalities to conduct community campaigns promoting the use of renewable energy through a program known as “Community Solar;” and

WHEREAS, a Community Solar campaign allows both residential and commercial customers to subscribe to an offsite solar project and receive credits on their electric bills for the clean energy produced while continuing to be supplied electricity by their current utility through the existing grid; and

WHEREAS, Community Solar typically provides customers a discount from conventional electricity pricing; and

WHEREAS, Community Solar imposes no requirement for customers to enroll in the program, but provides prospective customers with information and a choice to opt into the program; and

WHEREAS, these agreements occur directly between the solar provider(s) and the subscriber; the role of the Town of Hillsdale is simply to connect residents to available providers by assisting in public education and outreach for the campaign; and

WHEREAS, under NYSEDA’s CEC program, municipalities participating in Community Solar campaigns qualify for grants upon enrollment of a minimum number of subscribers in their communities and receive points under the CSC program toward certification; and

WHEREAS, NYSEDA provides technical assistance and other tools and resources to communities in support of Community Solar campaigns; and

WHEREAS, the Columbia County Climate Smart Communities Task Force solicited and vetted Community Solar provider proposals, and at a Task Force meeting held on the 6th day of January 2022 made recommendation to the Columbia County Board of Supervisors that both Astral Power and Nexamp be selected for the countywide Community Solar Campaign; and

WHEREAS, at a meeting held on the 9th day of February 2022, the Columbia County Board of Supervisors resolved to initiate a countywide Community Solar campaign with both Astral Power and Nexamp to jointly promote offers to residents, businesses, and governmental and non-governmental organizations to subscribe to offset their electric consumption with solar energy from existing and developing solar projects throughout New York State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Hillsdale, that the Town of Hillsdale agrees to piggyback on the county campaign and initiate a town-wide Community Solar campaign with Astral Power and Nexamp; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Hillsdale, that the Hillsdale Climate Smart Community Task Force shall subsequently undertake the following steps:

- Complete the required scoping document describing the campaign and submit the same for approval from NYSERDA to proceed;
- Initiate the campaign by publicizing and promoting Community Solar opportunities to prospective customers; and
- Submit the required documentation to the CSC and CEC programs for credit towards Bronze Certification and to qualify for grant funding.