

BEEKMAN TOWN BOARD – PUBLIC MEETING – May 7, 2013

The Public Meeting of the Beekman Town Board was called to order at 7:00PM with Supervisor Matthew D. Kennedy presiding. The Meeting was held in the meeting room at Town Hall.

THOSE PRESENT: SUPERVISOR MATTHEW D. KENNEDY
COUNCILMAN PETER BARTON – ARRIVED AT 7:05PM
COUNCILMAN RON MANGERI
COUNCILWOMAN BARBARA ZULAUF
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL MORAN - ABSENT

Supervisor Matthew D. Kennedy began the Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence in Honor of our Troops who have served and those currently serving. He made one administrative announcement regarding the location of fire exits.

The purpose of the Public Meeting this evening was to address concerns and questions pertaining to the Solar Farm landfill project. Paul Curran began with a slideshow presentation – an overview of the project and the steps that have been taken thus far. Chris Alsante from Solartech Renewables was present to clarify concerns or questions pertaining to his company.

Many residents were present and were offered the opportunity to voice their concerns. The main topic of concern with many residents is the possible puncturing of the landfill cap from the construction and weight of these Solar Panels. If this scenario were to occur many people are fearful of water contamination. Several residents, however in favor of green energy, believe that the landfill sight is not the most appropriate location and would like to see alternate locations investigated. Another shared concern by residents was the amount of Grant money that will be used versus the amount of return the Town will see. Some view this project as a bad investment. The Grant will be approximately \$500,000 and the Town will receive \$225,000 over the course of the 25 year lease.

For this project, Solartech Renewables is strictly just the manufacturer of the panels and contractor. Smart Energy Capital is the owner and operator. A Couple of Town Board members questioned this and were concerned with the financial stability of Solartech Renewables. An additional concern with the structure of Solartech Renewables proposal is that they are unable to be the owner / operator of the Solar Farm, whereas some of the other bids received were companies that proposed to be the manufacturer, owner and operator.

The Public Meeting ended at 9:09pm after all public and Board comments and concerns were voiced.

ADJOURN:

At 9:10PM with no further business to conduct Councilwoman Zulauf makes the motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Supervisor Kennedy. All in favor.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

RACHAEL RANCOURT

TOWN CLERK