

**Town of Elmira, New York  
Planning Board  
Meeting – February 3, 2025 7:00 pm EST**

**MINUTES**

PRESENT: Chairman Mark Miles

Members:

Ron McConnell  
Mike Kohberger  
Nick Kapnolas  
Paul DiPietro  
Robert Knapp

ALSO PRESENT:

Eric Crandall, Code Enforcement Officer  
Patty Carozza, Recording Secretary  
Scott Moore, Town of Elmira Attorney

Chairman Miles opens the regular meeting at 7:00 pm and welcomes everyone. He states that there is an agenda for this evening, but when it comes to the Public Comment of the meeting- you cannot discuss any agenda items.

Chairman Miles asked members if they had read the minutes of the January 6, 2025 meeting and if anyone had additions or corrections, and hearing none, a motion to approve.

**MOTION** by Nick Kapnolas to accept the minutes as written.

Second by Ron McConnell

*Ayes:* Miles, McConnell, Kapnolas, DiPietro, Kohberger, Knapp and Maloney

*Nays:* None

Chairman Miles states that on the agenda tonight is the Hillcrest Solar Site Plan. Attorney Moore sites that at a recent community meeting that was held last week, it was clear that the community and people present this evening have concerns about the project. One of the main concerns regarding the project is the battery storage component. Moore continued that a battery specialist is willing to come and address concerns. At this time the developer, Nick Cumha, was given permission to address the board and was requesting an adjournment for Solar Power Site Plan due to the recent public concerns. He also mentioned that at the recent community meeting held, there were many questions which he would also like to be able to address. He stated that he also has a specialist on battery storage and would be happy to arrange for them to attend the next meeting.

Attorney Moore suggests that this agenda item can be adjourned by the planning board for tonight but the next meeting will have to change in location and possibly the date. This would accommodate the increased number of people in attendance and to be able to make sure a battery specialists can attend.

Chairman Miles states that a motion could be made to adjourn until the March 3, 2025 meeting with considerations made by Attorney Moore.

**MOTION** by Robert Knapp was made to adjourn the Solar Site Plan project for this evening until March 3, 2025 **if** another large venue is available and **if** the battery specialist can attend. There may be a date change to accommodate both and it will be posted on the Town of Elmira Website.

Seconded by Mike Kohberger

*Ayes:* Miles, McConnell, Kapnolas, DiPietro, Kohberger, Knapp, and Maloney

*Nays:* None

Chairman Miles asks if there is any other business or comments by the board's members. Hearing none, he moves to old business.

**Old Business**

Mike Kohberger addresses the board and states that at the organizational meeting in January, he was nominated to be the Vice-chair of this committee. He has graciously declined that position. Chairman Miles asks if there is anyone on the board that would like to be the Vice Chair. William Maloney offers to be the vice chair.

**MOTION** by Nick Kapnolas to nominate William Maloney as the Vice Chair.

Seconded by Mike Kohberger

*Ayes:* Miles, McConnell, Kapnolas, DiPietro, Kohberger, Knapp and Maloney

*Nays:* none

Chairman Miles asks if there are any comments from members of the public to the board. He further states that no agenda items can be discussed at tonight's meeting any other comments are welcomed. A few members of the audience wanted to know when the public would be able to speak and Chairman Miles addressed that question by noting that the Public Hearing of this project has already taken place but they can continue to write letters as they are considered an avenue for voicing concerns or comments. It was duly noted that the location and date of the next meeting would be posted on the Town of Elmira Web Site. The other concern regarding this project was the name of the project and the members of the audience would like that clarified. Chairman Miles reminds the public that the Planning Board meets the first Monday of the month as long as there are agenda items.

Chairman Miles requests a motion to adjourn.

**MOTION** by Nick Kapnolas to adjourn the meeting

Seconded by Mike Kohberger

*Ayes:* Miles, McConnell, Kapnolas, DiPietro, Kohberger, Knapp and Maloney

*Nays:* none

The meeting ends at 7:24 pm EST.

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