

Town of Independence
Public Hearing Re: ReneSola Power Solar Permit Application
Regular Meeting
February 11, 2021

The Independence Town Board met in the Town Hall on February 2, 2021 at 6:30pm for a Public Hearing regarding ReneSola Power's Solar Permit Application and at 7pm for the regular monthly meeting.

Present: Supervisor Reichman; Council: Howe, Meunier, Ellison, Brubaker; Town Clerk, Bledsoe; Highway Supt, Acomb.

Visitors: Town Attorney, Dave Pullen, Brad Davis and Dan Spitzer (via Zoom), and 5 area residents (via Zoom)

All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Reichman called the Public Hearing to order. Hearing had been duly advertised in the form of Legal Notice, posted on the Town Clerk signboard, town sign, and town website.

Meeting started with Brad Davis (ReneSola Power) giving an overview of the project. Residents and Board were the given the opportunity to ask questions and discuss concerns with Brad and Dave Pullen. Aaron Brubaker (town resident) asked may questions regarding project timelines, amount of traffic, fencing, upkeep of the solar property, and environmental impact. Resident, Ross Scott, also addressed concern on signage at property gate in case of emergency. All discussed.

A motion to adjourn the Public Hearing was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Howe and carried by all at 7:18pm.

Supervisor Reichman called the February Regular Meeting to order.

Attorney, Dave Pullen, began speaking regarding the ReneSola agreements and giving his recommendations. Board discussed and he will work on finalizing agreements and paperwork for the Board to consider approval of the application at the March Regular Meeting.

A motion to accept the January 14, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes was made by Council Howe, seconded by Council Ellison and carried by all.

Superintendent Acomb gave his Highway report. They have been doing a lot of plowing and sanding, working on shop projects including opening up and studding walls, cutting brush, and repairs on Kenworth, International and Pete. They have also completed the anti-harassment training as well as hearing tests.

Town of Bingham may be interested in purchasing old plow equipment, Acomb to follow up on and report at next meeting.

Fuel Report:

	Used	Purchased	Fire Dept.	Police Dept.	Measure
Diesel	2374.3	2293.3	67	0	2'8"
Gas	179.4	142.6	0	30.8	2'6"

Road Use Agreement concerns were discussed between Board, Superintendent, and Attorney Pullen. Board is tabling to better read through and further discuss and compare other agreements.

Supervisor gave Water report. She stated that the leak on the Old Cryder Rd. was now fixed with resident. Austin Waite has been working well with Dick Waters and has been changing many meters in town, he is also now starting his Class C coursework.

Supervisor reported that the Town Hall property has been surveyed by Jim Ball, waiting on final map.

Police garage was briefly discussed, no decisions were made.

The Board has had two interested applicants in the Dog Control Officer position. After discussion, a motion was made by Supervisor Howe, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all to hire Percy Sherman as DCO.

Supervisor Reichman gave a Police Reform update. A 10 question survey is currently open to the public and has had a good turn out on completed surveys so far. It will remain open to the public until February 21st. Data will be collected and information to be reviewed by the committee and submitted in the plan. It will need to be finished and accepted at the March Meeting for an April 1st deadline for submittal.

Clerk stated that WCS has requested the use of Town Hall for the school vote on May 18th from 12-9pm. A motion to allow was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Brubaker and carried by all. Clerk will notify Tracey Waters.

Financial report and 2020 Annual Book keeping reports were submitted to the board for review and Audit. Completed AUD report was also submitted for Board review.

Annual Audit of the Justice Books were performed by the Board. A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Brubaker and carried by all.

Monthly Town Clerk and Police reports were reviewed by the Board.

Bills were reviewed with the motion made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all to pay abstracts #2-2021 in the following amounts:

Water:	Voucher: 6-17	\$5,250.99
General:	15-36	\$24,610.62
Highway:	9-21	\$16,198.34

A motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Brubaker and carried by all at 9:30 pm.

Jasmine Bledsoe, Town Clerk