



TOWN OF LEWISTON
1375 Ridge Road
Lewiston, New York 14092
(716) 754-8213
www.townoflewiston.us

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

March 12, 2019 7:00 PM

PRESENT: Chairmen J. Wolfgang; J Allen; Z. Collister; B. Davey; V. Polka; Board Liaison Alfonso Marra-Bax; Board Member Morreale

GUESTS: Steve Lyle; Amy Witryol; Benjamin Joe

EXCUSED: D. Balassone; M. Feldman

MINUTES:

Chairman Wolfgang took attendance.

Jim made note the Commission was invited to last night's Board Meeting.

B. Davey made motion to approve January minutes, V. Polka seconds, J. Allen abstains and the motion carried.

Army Corps of Engineers newsletter passed around. Chairman shared article about recycling by Barbara O'Brien, in the Buffalo News. J. Allen mentioned new guideline for recycling having to be too clean may kill motivation to recycle.

Discussion regarding Town Waterfront Park at River Rd. Discussed the history of intake & outflow existing on site. Guest Amy Witryol spoke regarding the project (documents attached). One concern was actual size of contaminated site may be larger than visualized in GHD's report. Second concern was effectiveness of boring samples being composite and diluted. J. Allen asked if the pipeline next door had done any sampling when installing the pipeline, to which an answer could not be supplied by current group present. Chairman Wolfgang made note that the Town is looking from a letter from the DEC to indicate whether this site is safe and what the proper plan should be for this site to make it safe. A. Witryol's concern is that no history report was provided or conducted. Chairman Wolfgang mentioned that the Town did not approve the GHD Riverfront Park Site Characterization Report and that GHD may need to perform more sampling. Chairman Wolfgang suggested the Town needs to look for an engineering firm that does this analysis on a regular basis to perform better testing. J. Allen also recommended Riverkeeper as a resource. J. Allen added that the engineering firm needs to be unbiased to the Town. Town Board needs to consider liability and needs to define an organized timeline for this project. Councilman Morreale asked if the Town should continue to look into it and try to clean up the property or if we leave it contaminated for future generations. Councilman Bax made note that he would like to know what needs to be done with the property before a project is proposed. Consensus from Commission & Councilmen present was that we need a proper site plan for the property before any projects are to be considered for the property. Z. Collister asked if the Town can look into whether just installing a gravel road way or walkway along the maintained side of the property and whether lying on top of existing soil would be ok since it wouldn't be disturbed. J. Allen makes motion for the Town Board to look into a proper site plan with a non-biased Engineering firm, B. Davey seconded and the motion carried.

Review of Solcius LLC Project for 1451 Ridge Rd for a solar ground mount. B. Davey was concerned that the acreage does not meet the 5 acre minimum. Discussion with Councilman Bax concurred that there is a residential law that differs and that the 5 acre minimum was for farms, not personal usage. J. Allen made motion for Negative Declaration pending review that this is in accordance to the Local Law for Residential Solar and approval of the Planning Board. Z. Collister seconded the motion. B. Davey & V. Polka abstained.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday April 16 at 7:00PM.

J. Allen made a motion to adjourn, V. Polka seconded the motion and the motion carried.