

TOWN OF PORTLAND SPECIAL MEETING
PROPOSED WIND ENERGY PROJECTS/TOWN & VILLAGE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
PORTLAND TOWN HALL
JANUARY 29, 2018 – 1:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Daniel Schrantz	Supervisor
Jerry Boltz	Council
Patti Farrell	Council
Rick Manzella	Council

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Gary Miller	Council
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OTHERS PRESENT:

Members of the Planning Board
Roxane Sobecki Clerk
Andrew Kuckowski Reporter
Ken Becker Highway Superintendent
Carol Horlacher and Art Miller Village Trustees
Approximately 7 residents

Supervisor Schrantz called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Charlie Karustis-Contractor of Emergya Wind Technology (EWT) via a phone conference presented to the town board a five-wind turbine proposal. EWT headquarters are located in Amersfoort, The Netherlands with 130+ employees worldwide with three staff members dedicated to the New York market. Mr. Karusitis stated EWT is focused on providing renewable energy to local landowners and surrounding communities. All five turbines would be constructed in fields with no anticipated wetland or forested area impacts, west of Pecor and Fay Streets.

Proposed Projects Overview:

- Total of five, 1MW EWT turbines;
- Approximately 405 acres;
- One, 2MW project and three, 1 MW projects; max project size for NY DG projects is 2MW;
- Proposed interconnection with local distribution line

Desired Q4 2018 Commercial Operations:

- Interconnection request in progress with Nation Grid;
- Prepared the begin permitting process assuming township acceptance;
- Due diligence work indicates no fatal flaws.

The turbine's tip height is 326 ft., hub height is 226 ft. with a rotor diameter of 200 ft. Mr. Karustis reviewed the economic benefits for the community.

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The town board reviewed the zoning ordinance which stated all turbines must have 1,200-foot setback of neighboring property lines with no more than 50 decibels for six minutes in any given hour. To protect the town a \$100,000 performance bond is required.

The town, planning board and residents discussed and asked many questions regarding the size, noise, property value, flicker effect of the turbine, water flow impact, why not buy made in America turbines, recycling material once the turbines become obsolete, building lots, and how birds and bats will be affected. Mr. Karustis and Kevin Powell who's land the turbines will be located on answered questions.

The Town Board did not discuss in favor or opposing this project.

Supervisor Schrantz thanked everyone for attending.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT VILLAGE/TOWN:

Village Trustees Carol Horlacher and Art Miller discussed with the board and Highway Superintendent Becker the Village Highway situation. Discussion was on having Portland Highway Superintendent Becker oversee the two village highway employees after village superintendent Allan retires this spring. It was stated the two employees do not want the village superintendent's position. The village would pay the town a stipend for this service, it was discussed possibly half of Mr. Allan's salary. Portland Superintendent and highway secretary would receive a stipend for their work. Mr. Becker stated this would be a learning curve, but anything can work if you want it to. He told the village trustees he would keep a daily log of work done and report to the village at their board meetings. He also recommended one of the village employees becoming a deputy village highway superintendent. The Portland Town Board were all in favor of trying this. Supervisor Schrantz stated he will have the town attorney draft a contract for the village and town boards to review. The boards also agreed if this were to become a reality this would have to be revisited in 3 to 6 months.

With no further business, on a motion of Council Boltz, seconded by Council Manzella the meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Roxane Sobecki-Town Clerk