

**SOMERSWORTH SITE REVIEW TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
APRIL 5, 2017**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shanna Saunders, Chair, Mike Bobinsky, Scott McGlynn, Tim McLin, Tim Metivier, Keith Hoyle and Paul Robidas.
MEMBERS ABSENT: None.
STAFF PRESENT: Tracy Gora, Planning Secretary.
OTHERS PRESENT: Dale Smith-Kenyon.

The meeting was called to order at 10:31 am.

- 1) Approval of the minutes of the meeting of March 1, 2017.

Motion: Bobinsky moved to accept the minutes of the meeting of March 1, 2017

Seconded by Hoyle. Motion carried unanimously.

2) OLD BUSINESS

- A) Velcro USA is seeking site plan approval with waivers to install a solar panel system on property located at 300 Route 108, in the Commercial Industrial (CI) District, Assessor's Map 47, Lot 01, SITE #02-2017.

Rick Dolce with CLD Consulting Engineers represented the applicant and addressed the Committee. Stated that they addressed all comments from the last SRTC meeting and reviewed them. Stated that Velcro wants the solar panels to be seen and to showcase renewable energy.

Saunders asked that all vegetation be shown on the renderings and site plan.

Dolce showed the plans that show the arborvitaes that will screen the pads.

Saunders stated that she wants to see it on the plan view because it isn't clear now. Stated that it can be a condition of approval for the final plan set. Stated that the sheet should at least be brought to the Planning Board meeting because landscaping is very important to the Board.

Dolce continued to review the comments and stated that there will be no water or sewer connection here. Talked about the maintenance for the solar array.

Smith Kenyon asked about where aged-out, discarded panels go.

Brian Ramsey of Velcro USA represented the applicant and addressed the Committee. Stated that he is unsure what happens to the panels but assumes they get recycled because of the circuitry.

Dolce stated that as they age-out they will either be updated or removed all together. Referred to comment four and stated that Velcro welcomes the partnership to view the array but would like to secure times and have a schedule.

Ramsey stated that they are willing to work with the City but they just want to have a schedule instead of people just showing up. Stated that this will only be an energy reducer and not a power source. Stated that they are hoping to reduce energy needs by 10%. Stated that in the event the array doesn't work, they will just resort back to Eversource.

Metivier asked if this is reverse metering.

Ramsey stated that they have worked that out yet. Stated that it is not their intent to sell back to the grid and that they will use it themselves.

Bobinsky asked why they are only reducing by 10%

Ramsey stated that it has to do with the amount of sun available, the physical location and the angle of the sun.

Bobinsky confirmed that if they wanted more they would have to expand the array.

Ramsey confirmed and stated that they wanted to pick the right size for the use. Stated that they don't want to have to sell back to the grid.

Dolce stated that an Alteration of Terrain (AoT) application has been submitted. Stated that the elevations for the junction box is shown on the renderings and is flush to the ground.

Saunders stated that it needs to be included with the information for the Planning Board.

Dolce stated that they did work with a landscape architect. Stated that they submitted a waiver request from underground utilities. Stated that the SRTC asked for a view of the property from Route 108 showing utility lines, etc. but they didn't submit one because he felt it would reflect accurately. Stated that there are utility pole there already and that the best way to see is to drive by the property. Stated that the renderings would be false.

Robidas stated that the Planning Board will want to see something.

Dolce stated that they will supply a picture.

Robidas asked if there is another example of an array they can use.

Ramsey stated that there is nothing of this size in the State yet and that this will be the largest. Stated that with Eversource, even if they go underground, there will be poles on the site.

Robidas stated that the Planning Board members are going to want to see what it is going to look like.

Smith Kenyon stated that the solar company should have something they can send.

Dolce suggested that a drive-by might be the most effective. Stated that pole locations can be adjusted a little. Stated that Sheet C2 of the plans shows elevations around the site and stated that there is a berm so that there is a good portion where you won't see anything. Stated that the solar panels won't be in view for a good portion of Route 108. Stated that he added details on the proposed fence and that it will be typical black chained-link. Referred to item ten from the comment letter regarding how the panels are mounted and supplied a detail sheet from the company. Stated that the panels can resist up to a 187 MPH wind. Showed the turning radius for emergency vehicles and stated that it is capable for a pump house.

Bobinsky asked about community access to the array and how that will work. Stated that he is happy that the public can view the array.

Ramsey stated that they just want to keep a schedule so that they know when people are coming to the site.

Bobinsky stated that he likes that the proposed fence is dark and can be seen through. Stated that it is attractive and functional and he supports that.

Metivier asked if the array is stagnant or dynamic.

Ramsey stated that it is stagnant.

Motion: Robidas moved that the site plan request of Velcro USA be forwarded to the Planning Board for further review.

Seconded by Hoyle. Motion carried unanimously.

B) Any other old business that may come before the Committee.

None.

2) NEW BUSINESS

A) Any new business that may come before the Committee.

Saunders passed out a request from Tire Warehouse on Route 108 that would like to construct a tire storage area. Stated that it would be a fenced area for their tires and she just wants to make sure that everyone is okay with it.

McGlynn stated that there would be no water issues.

Robidas stated that he would rather see a fenced area instead of the truck that is there.

Smith Kenyon mentioned wetlands in the back and stated that the property owner may have filled in back there. Stated that she doesn't know if the State allowed it but that it didn't come through the Conservation Commission.

Robidas stated that he thinks they filled it last year.

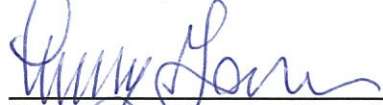
Hoyle stated that the fence area looks fine to him.

Motion: Bobinsky moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Hoyle. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:03 am.

Respectively submitted:



Tracy Gora, Planning Secretary
Site Review Technical Committee