

**Re: Last night's Planning Board meeting**

DG &lt;d.gever@verizon.net&gt;

Fri 8/5/2022 2:05 PM

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To All Planning Board Members, Town Council Members, and other residents that Louanne included:

I can not be more emphatic in my support of Louanne's summary of last Wednesday's meeting, and her comments associated with it.

I too found the treatment of the folks that oppose the installation of this massive power plant by two of the members of the Planning Board to be offensive, insensitive, insulting, demeaning, and irresponsible. The other three were pretty much silent during the meeting.

Referring to Louanne's synopsis of one of the Planning Board member's comments in regard to the folks who are objecting to this project, I would summarize that comment as follows... "Too bad, it sucks to be you". Other negative statements and treatment from at least two of the Planning Board members confirmed my understanding that they have already made up their mind to allow this monstrous solar utility plant to be built in our neighborhood, irrespective of the evidence admitted into the record. This callous disregard for the undeniable negative impact on the environment from clear cutting the existing unfragmented forest, and the clear pattern of negative impact on the property values of the homes nearby are unforgiveable to me. To be so dismissive of these facts indicates to me that these members do not want to protect our environment and our way of life. I do not know how the three other Planning Board members feel about this solar abomination, but I hope they can objectively listen, digest, and analyze the facts surrounding this case, and ultimately conclude that there will be a significant negative impact and ultimately have the courage to deny the applicant's proposal, as was done originally.

One question for the two Planning Board members mentioned earlier, and since I don't know how the other three feel yet, for them too, is the following... What is it about this project that causes you to be so adamantly in favor of it, given the negative ramifications that it will have? I have yet to hear a succinct response to that question in the four years in which I have been involved with this process.

Analysis, by not only me, is that this project was never a good idea, and was originally denied by the Planning Board for reasons that have not changed since that time so long ago. No evidence or arguments presented by the applicant so far, or its witnesses have indicated that there will not be significant environmental damage or have a diminution affect on property values. Those two issues alone remain unchanged, irregardless of the mitigation plans put forth by the applicant. Therefore, it seems that the Planning Board remains in "good standing" for supporting its original decision. Thus, it follows that the Planning Board should, and must be consistent with their previous determination, based on the unchanged facts, and once again, deny this project.

It appears that there will be another meeting on October the 5th, where the public will be able to voice their concerns about, and possibly support, this project, hopefully at the beginning of the meeting, instead of at the very end. This may complete the process needed to fully comply with the "due diligence" required by the Planning Board to make a "finding" in this case. If this is so, then only the facts presented by both sides should dictate the outcome, and not the biases of Planning Board members. And, if that happens, I do not see how a positive finding could result, given the irrefutable argument that there will be significant negative impacts on the environment and nearby home values.

I believe that there are much better sites to consider than this one for a solar power utility. So, to the Planning Board members... Please stand up to keep this part of Hopkinton the way it has been. It's the reason we moved here.

v/r,

David Gever  
Hope Valley

-----Original Message-----

From: LouAnne McCormick <rimcwife@gmail.com>  
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Sent: Fri, Aug 5, 2022 12:13 pm  
Subject: Fwd: Last night's Planning Board meeting

Please see below

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **LouAnne McCormick** <rimcwife@gmail.com>  
Date: Fri, Aug 5, 2022 at 12:10 PM  
Subject: Last night's Planning Board meeting  
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Dear members of the Hopkinton Planning Board,