

*** All present are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with our City's Core Values ***



OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

Notice is hereby given that the Solar Array Task Force of the City of Wausau, Wisconsin will hold a regular or special meeting on the date, time and location shown below.

SOLAR ARRAY TASK FORCE

Date/Time: **Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.**
Location: **City Hall (407 Grant Street, Wausau WI 54403) - Council Chambers**
Members: **Chad Henke, John Robinson, Jay Coldwell, Paul Svetlik, Susan Woods**

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1 Approval of Minutes from previous meetings (01/31/2024, 02/22/2024).
- 2 Discussion following question and answer session conducted by the task force of the following solar, engineering and landscaping professionals with regard to their expertise in serving government entities with solar array arrangements.
 - a. QTSN
 - b. Clark Dietz
 - c. Solar Connection
 - d. Ehrenreich's Prairie Plus
- 3 Discussion and possible action on scheduling future meetings and agenda topics.
- 4 Adjourn

Signed by Chad Henke, Chairperson

This Notice was posted at City Hall, on the City of Wausau website, and sent to the Daily Herald newsroom on 03/04/2024 @ 9:15AM. Questions regarding this agenda may be directed to the City Clerk.

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the City of Wausau will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs or activities. If you need assistance or reasonable accommodations in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call the ADA Coordinator at (715) 261-6622 or ADAServices@ci.wausau.wi.us to discuss your accessibility needs. We ask your request be provided a minimum of 72 hours before the scheduled event or meeting. If a request is made less than 72 hours before the event the City of Wausau will make a good faith effort to accommodate your request.

SOLAR ARRAY TASK FORCE

Date and Time: Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 4:00 pm, City Hall, Board Room

Members Present: Chad Henke (C), John Robinson, Paul Svetlik, Jay Coldwell, Susan Woods

Others Present: Eric Lindman, Kaitlyn Bernarde

Noting the presence of a quorum, Chairperson Henke called the meeting to order at 4:02 P.M.

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting 12/11/2023).

Motion to approve by Woods. Second by Chad Henke. Motion passes 3-0.

Discussion and possible action to review and propose changes to the presentation for the January community meeting.

Henke directed to have the Community Meeting added to the city calendar which will be held on January 31, 2024 at NTC in Room A165 from 6:30pm-7:30pm.

The task force went through and made suggestions to the draft presentation created by Chad Henke and Eric Lindman. The task force wanted to present all options including the option to not create an array, to have an array on rooftops, and using bigger units.

Jay Coldwell arrived at 4:10 P.M.

The task force requested to Zoom in on the proposal maps to see the sites better.

Paul Svetlick arrived at 4:37 P.M.

Discussion and possible action on scheduling future meetings.

The next meeting will be held on February 22, 2024, at 4:00pm at City Hall. Bernarde will send out a WebEx for Robinson to join remotely. The meeting will review the public comments from the community meeting, identify criteria for a solar array and schedule future meetings.

Public Comment.

- Pete Roth: questioned funding for the array, the ability to expand the array, and what land the city would sell around the Drinking Water Treatment Facility.
- A neighborhood resident suggested having neighborhood minimum recommendations for solar array selections.
- A neighborhood resident provided community guidelines for the distance a solar array should be from homes, noting the proximity of the Well House array.
- Deb Hoppa: questioned if solar panels require similar maintenance to wind turbines, the size of arrays, and if the city could get the financing for the project.

Adjourn

Motion by Woods, seconded by Robinson, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:16 P.M.

SOLAR ARRAY TASK FORCE

Date and Time: Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 4:00 pm, City Hall, Board Room

Members Present: Chad Henke (C), Paul Svetlik, Jay Coldwell, Susan Woods

Members appearing remotely via WebEx (not counting towards quorum): John Robinson

Others Present: Kaitlyn Bernarde (WebEx)

Noting the presence of a quorum Chairperson Henke called the meeting to order at 4:10 P.M.

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting 01/31/2024).

Bernarde asked the agenda item to be held until the next meeting.

Review and discuss notes from January community meeting.

Svetlick questioned what the berm would look like? What does the aesthetic barrier look like? Woods thought some of the questions and concerns would be resolved when there was a proposal including the setbacks from the trees. Robinson asked if the task force had survey data from the water treatment facility. Henke will follow up with Eric Lindman.

Discussion and possible action on solar array locations and aesthetics to have engineering design in more detail.

Henke stated the Task Force should go to Council with 2 preferred proposals: "Well House" and the Two Cities Option. Robinson cautioned ruling out proposals if we are unsure what some of the costs would be.

Solar Array Criteria suggested by the Task Force:

- Heights, angle, and orientation of arrays
- Equipment of arrays
- Footprint of the array
- Tracking availability (single and dual)
- Initial costs and additional maintenance
- Explanation of what is selected and why something else was not selected.
- Are there portions of the project that are eligible or may not be eligible for credits.
- Fence
- Berm
 - The grade of houses to the array
 - Could have the berm tall enough to cover the array.
 - If the berm is not feasible with the layout, what are the alternatives?
 - Can the berm be a part of the setbacks?
- Trees: keep as many as possible, if not all
- If need an access road on Tierney a suggestion to place it at the end of the road across from well
- What are pros and cons of arrays that have panels on both sides?

Pat Peterson, Matthew Construction and Solar Connection spoke about the pros and cons of solar arrays. Robinson recommended having Clark Dietz do a pro and con presentation of each option. Pete Roth asked if the city was paying Clark Dietz for their proposals.

Woods noted there were no new updates from the US Treasury on the available credits. It was asked if a solar array would create road requirements to Tierney?

Discussion and possible action on scheduling future meetings and agenda topics.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 6 at 5:00pm at City Hall. Henke and staff will work to schedule a Q&A session with solar array experts for the task force to be able to create a concept plan.

Adjourn

Motion by Woods, seconded by Coldwell, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:14 P.M.