

REMARKS/ Town of Romulus Planning Board /December 4, 2017

Good evening.

I want to start by welcoming you all and thank you for joining us tonight.

My name is Tom Bouchard and I am the chairperson of the Town of Romulus Planning Board, a position that I've held for several years now.

I'd like to take a few minutes before our regular meeting begins to say a few things about the Special Use Application that we will be hearing about tonight, including what steps we have initiated so far and what the planning board's role will be moving forward.

Without question, this massive plan will require close scrutiny. Obviously, concerns have been raised so far about the size and the scope of the project.

That is why, tonight, the planning board has invited the applicant, Circular enerG, to present an overview of their proposal. Tonight we are all here to learn more about their plans. Therefore, tonight will not be the night for comments or questions. As much as I know that some of you will have a burning desire to speak, I ask that you refrain from speaking tonight. There will be ample opportunity for public

comment down the line as this process unfolds. I would encourage everyone here tonight to listen to what's being said, take notes if you'd like and follow up with us later. (This might be a good time to remind anyone who hasn't turned off their cell phone yet to please go ahead and do so.)

The planning board is just at the very beginning of evaluating the merits of this proposal. Let me highlight what has transpired so far.

The planning board received Circular enerG's application for a Special Use Permit on Monday, November 6, 2017. These large binders were distributed to all the planning board members before our last meeting on Monday, November 13, 2017. Right now, we are still in the process of familiarizing ourselves with the information.

The only actions that we did take at our last meeting were to lay the groundwork for us to effectively handle addressing this application. The steps that we took were three fold:

First, by unanimous consent, we declared our intent to be the lead agency for the State Environmental Quality Review (or SEQR.) We believe that this would be the best way to maintain local control over the process.

Second, by unanimous consent, we requested that the Town of Romulus hire an environmental engineering firm to assist the planning board with the SEQR. The town board will take up our request at its next meeting on Wednesday, December 20, 2017.

Third, by unanimous consent, we requested that the town also hire an environmental attorney.

The planning board's view is that enlisting professional advice at this initial period would be a reasonable safeguard in serving the interests of the community. I would like to point out that the applicant would be responsible for the cost of providing these services for the town.

Letters declaring the Town of Romulus Planning Board's intent to be lead agency will be sent out this week. New York State law requires that the various involved parties contacted have 30 days in which to respond. Once that step has been completed, then the SEQR review can proceed.

The applicant will also be required to submit an application to the Town of Romulus Zoning Board of Appeals (or ZBA).

At that point, it will be taken up by the Zoning Board of Appeals and after the ZBA holds a public hearing, it will then come back to the planning board for final determination.

So this is where we're at currently.

The Seneca County Planning Board will also be involved in this review process.

There's a lot of moving parts here.

Like I've indicated earlier, the planning board is in the preliminary phase of review. We are committed to doing our due diligence in this matter. We are committed to vetting this project carefully and thoroughly. We will not be rushed or forced to take short cuts. We are committed to listening to your feedback. We are committed to keeping the public informed as information is assembled and validated by the experts that we expect to hire. We are committed to following and trusting the process and I hope that you will be as well.

Again, I want to thank everyone for showing up tonight. I also want to thank the Romulus Fire Department for making this space available tonight. If you haven't signed in yet, please do so. Oh, and

one more thing: if anyone needs the restroom, they are located in the back to the right.

And now, I will call the Town of Romulus Planning Board to order. Please rise and join us in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

Thank you.

Tom Bouchard,

Chairperson

Town of Romulus Planning Board

Town of Romulus Planning Board

Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2017

Romulus Fire Department Hall

Roll Call

Guests: see attached lists

Tom Bouchard, Chairman

Cindy Meckley

Al Nivison

Bill Karlsen

Mary Joslyn

Sue Ellen Balluff

Kate Sinicropi

Opening Remarks by Tom

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence

Approval of November 13, 2017 Minutes Al made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Motion second by Sue Ellen. Minutes unanimously approved.

New Business

Circular enerG Special Use Permit Application Presentation Alan Knauf, attorney from Knauf Shaw, LLP for Circular enerG; Mike Ritchie, Costich Engineering; Mike Costich, Costich Engineering; Matt Sutton, Daigler Engineering; Mike Daigler, Daigler Engineering; Melissa Valle, Knauf Shaw LLP; Mike Palumbo, Seneca Depot LLC.

The presentation on the solid waste to energy incinerator project was presented by the individuals listed above. See attached PowerPoint.

Earl Martin Subdivision Mr. Martin spoke about the last half year which has been spent in Varick with the White Deer tours and development of habitat. Next stage is now coming about with the beginning of four phases for industrial development. The 74-acre subdivision is bordering Rd. 135, known as Fayette Rd. Here there is access to gas, water, electric and rail. We now have final preliminary drawings. Tom explained that we need an application from Mr. Martin, in addition to the site plan, with information about his plans. There will be another SEQR which will address the site plan review.

A motion to forward the Subdivision to the County Planning Board by Cindy. Bill seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

Motion for the Public Hearing for the Subdivision for Earl Martin for January 8th, 2018. M by Mary, seconded by Cindy. Motion unanimously approved. Sue Ellen asked if any other government agency is involved? No just the Romulus Planning Board was designated as the lead agency. Pat Morrell asked what is the Site Plan timeframe? It will be initiated within next 60 days Mr. Martin responded.

Election of officers for 2018. Al made a motion to keep the slate as is: Tom Bouchard, Chairman; Bill Karlsen, Vice Chairman; Kate Sinicropi, Secretary. Mary will serve as back up Secretary. Mary seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

Adoption of Planning Board schedule. Mary made a motion to adopt the schedule. Motion seconded by Bill. Motion unanimously approved.

Kate to send email to update contact information for all members.

Cindy's term expires at the end of the year. Cindy will write a letter to the board requesting extension of her term.

Old Business

Moratorium on large scale solar installations. The Town Attorney, Pat Morrell said it would be on the Town Board's agenda for Dec. 20th.

Design/Connect application. We were emailed the one that they did for the IDA not long ago.

Bill noted that the letter from DEC on the polluted sites on the Depot did not copy in Earl Martin or Pat Morrell. Tom will insure that they get a copy.

Motion to adjourn made by Cindy, seconded by Al. Motion approved unanimously.

8:35 pm adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Sinicropi

Secretary