

## **TOWN OF BENTON PLANNING MEETING**

**April 18, 2023**

**PRESENT:** Steve Hullings; Tom Rood; Rich Meyer; and Crystal Tomion.

Also Present: Jeff Ayers; Glenn Quackenbush, Town Councilman; Dick Harper, Town Councilman; Alan Tomion, Town Councilman; Arlene Wilson; Tom Fulkrod, Code Enforcement Officer; and Michael Peacock, Recording Secretary.

Tom Rood called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

### **APPEAL #21SP-22& APPEAL #22SP-23:**

The board states that the purpose of this meeting is to set stipulations for the proposed solar projects. Tom Rood introduced Jeff Ayers from Yates County Soil and Water. Ayers spoke about training available that is very helpful in approving solar projects. Ayers also spoke about the town's comprehensive plan. Ayers reminded the town to do what's best for the town, when it comes to their final decisions. Soil and water had suggested 8 year old trees be planted as screening, the board thinks 2 year old trees will be sufficient. The board also expressed concerns about drainage and low areas in the fields, they do not believe this will be an issue as both projects are relatively flat.

### **FINAL ACTIONS:**

A list was made of what the board thought should be put into place if the projects are approved. The list is as follows:

- Lines underground
- Maintenance to keep trees and weeds from growing
- A cover crop that grows under 4ft tall to cover the ground, and a list of suggested cover crops could be brought forward by Cornell Cooperative
- Signage: who owns the projects, voltage, emergency contact

### **CLOSING:**

Rood asked if there were any final questions.

Tomion made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meyer seconded the motion.

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 5:28pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Peacock

Recording Secretary