

DRAFT
TOWN OF BENTON PLANNING MEETING
October 28, 2025

PRESENT: Crystal Tomion; Rich Meyer; Steve Hullings; Matthew Perry; Jeremiah Tomion - Alt.

ABSENT: Jeff Eckert - Excused

Also Present: Glen Quackenbush, Town Councilman; John Kriese; Richard Harper, Town Councilman; Tom Davies, Town Councilman; Anthony Stauffer; Alan Tomion, Town Councilman; Mike Lewis; Kelly Sullivan; Kelly Murphy, Ashley Doyle; Paul Tomion; and Michael Peacock, Recording Secretary.

Crystal Tomion called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Meyer made a motion to approve the previous month's minutes as written, Jeremiah Tomion seconded the motion. All in Favor.

APPEAL #212SUP-25:

Anthony Stauffer is applying to build a commercial farm repair shop. Anthony Stouffer was present. The shop will be 50 x 68 ft. He says he will only work on farm equipment. A site plan was provided to the board by Stauffer. The plan was missing exact dimension sizes. Meyer provided insight to Stauffer on what the Zoning Board would be looking for next month from the applicant.

FINAL ACTIONS:

Meyer made a motion to accept with the stipulation that drawings with the exact dimensions are provided to the Zoning Board meeting, next month. Hullings seconded the motion. All in favor.

APPEAL #215SUP-25:

Doyle mowing is applying for a contractors yard for a mowing business out of his own current property. Ashley Doyle was present. The current plan is to only store equipment on site. The board asked questions on where the storage facilities on the property are located. A site ,ap was provided to the board, and Doyle pointed out where on the map the storage was going to be.

FINAL ACTIONS:

Hullings made a motion to accept the proposal as written, Jeremiah Tomion seconded the motion. All in favor.

APPEAL #216SUP-25 & APPEAL #217SUP-25:

BN80 LLC (solar company) is looking to build two(2) new solar farms on two adjacent sites. There is no official 991 address as of yet. Both projects will be a ground mounted solar project.

Mike Lewis and Kelly Sullivan were present representing the solar company. Maps were provided to the board.

Topics of discussion:

Fire Safety
Screening
Soil preservation
Knox Box information
Community thoughts
Decommission process
Battery Backup/Storage
Transfer of ownership possibility
Landscaping/mowing
NYSEG connection/Interconnection
Contents of the panels
Access Roads
Wetlands
SEQR Process
NYSHPO
Town of Benton's Comprehensive Plan/ Why Benton

FINAL ACTIONS:

Meyer made a motion for the Town of Benton Planning board to have intent on being the lead agency for the SEQR long form. Hullings seconded, all in favor.

CLOSING:

Meyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jeremiah Tomion seconded the motion. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Peacock
Recording Secretary