

**JOINT TOWN BOARD & PLAN COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
6/5/2019**

A Public Hearing was held before the Town Board and Plan Commission of the Town of Burke on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Burke Town Hall located at 5365 Reiner Road, Madison Wisconsin, a rezone petition from UTR to AT-35 and Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application submitted by Madison Gas & Electric for solar generation to install solar panels on Dane County owned property located at 5723 US Hwy 51 (parcel numbers 0810-171-9500-4, 0810-171-8190-2 and 0810-174-8070-4). Members present: Viney (Chair), Berg, Nimmow, Truitt, Nachtwey, Stoflet, Urban and Vraniak. Staff present: Brenda Ayers, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer. See attached for others present.

Viney called the Public Hearing to order at 5:31 p.m.

Dave Merritt, Dane County Department of Administration, reported that the county will lease 58 acres of airport property to MG&E for the installation of the solar panels. MG&E will construct, own and operate the plant and the county will purchase the energy provided for 25 years. He further reported that it is the county's goal to reduce its carbon foot print and this project will also reduce the county's electricity bill. Merritt stated that there are a dozen similar facilities throughout the country including one at Morey Field in Middleton. He noted that both the town and county will benefit from the shared revenue payment.

Todd Montevideo, MG&E, displayed the location map (a copy was also in the meeting packet). He noted that the electricity from the panels will generate to the Hanson Road substation. He stated that they are requesting a rezone of 80 acres to AT-35 and a Conditional Use Permit to allow solar panels on the site. Montevideo displayed a picture of the proposed plant. He noted that a portion of the 80 acres is prohibited from having improvements and will not have any panels on it. Prairie grass will be planted under the panels to provide soil stability. There will be a fence around the perimeter and access will be off Highway 51. Initially there will be increased traffic to the site during setup and construction but once it is operational the site will be inspected once a month only. There will not be any staff on site. Montevideo further reported that the shared revenue will be \$14,000 (should be \$15,000) and \$21,000 to Dane County annually.

Mike Allen, attorney representing MG&E, noted that in addition to the zoning and CUP approval the FAA will need to approve the solar panel use on the site and WisDOT will need to approve the access point.

Nachtwey inquired if the application has been submitted to the FAA.

Allen replied a glare study has been completed. The submittal to the FAA will be collaboration between MG&E and Dane County and they anticipate filing by summer. Montevideo noted that no issues were found in the glare study.

Viney inquired about the shared revenue formula. Allen stated it is prescribed under State law to be \$2,000 per MW 1/3 to the town and 2/3 to the county plus \$1,000 per MW to each.

Viney closed the public hearing at 5:50 p.m.

Brenda Ayers
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer
Town of Burke
07/26/2019