

At the Public Hearing held in the Council Chambers by the City Council, January 18, 2022, the following proceedings were held and entered in this record in the following words and figures to wit:

City Clerk

Mayor

The Mayor called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 P.M.

Roll Call - Aldermen Brown, Budd, Dorchinecz, Olive, and Wilson were present. Aldermen Bryant and Driskell reported after Hearing had begun. Alderman Skultety was absent.

Also present were Mayor Barry, City Clerk Lilly, City Attorney Romano, Water Superintendent Speagle, HBO Goodall, Ryan Peters with SolAmerica Energy, Jeff Alvey with AGCO, Joe Curvey, Bernard Curvey, Jane Curvey, Janice Phillips, Lee Phillips, Brent West, and Bri-anne West.

Mayor Barry announced that the purpose of the Public Hearing was to discuss the application from GSI Group, LLC for Special Use for the development and operation of an approximately 1.125 megawatt (MW-ac) solar energy generation facility to be located at IL Route 48, Taylorville. He then invited the Plan Commission to open their meeting and discussion; Chairman Kretzer began the Plan Commission Meeting with a roll call, showing all members present.

Per City Attorney Romano, this application should have been filed with plans and a fee of \$1,000.00 prior to this meeting per City Code section 10-15-5. An Ordinance was to be created and reviewed to approve the Special Use, ensuring all terms and conditions were met at this time. The second step would then be to approve the Building Permit. There will be no action possible from this meeting as those proper steps were not followed.

Ryan Peters with SolAmerica Energy presented information to those assembled regarding the plans for the solar energy facility to be located at GSI Group in Taylorville. The 1.125 MW facility will be located on 17 acres on combined two parcels within security fencing per the Code. There will be 2000-2300 modules/panels depending on the final size of the panels. It is a relatively flat site so there should be minimal disruption to vegetation, trees and land, and maintenance. He stated that there would be no concrete base for the panels, and the steel piles would be secured 8-9' deep based on studies of the wind and property. The transformer will be placed near the GSI plant facility itself, so it will be relatively silent. Monitoring will take place from the home base, ensuring proper production. The power generated will be solely for the use of GSI, and will be under Ameren.

Audience members inquired as to the use of local suppliers for rock and materials, as well as the impact to adjacent property values and availability of the solar supply to other businesses.

Mr. Peters noted that there should be minimal impact to the area. They will seek to use local suppliers for materials and will seek quotes locally. He further stated that other businesses are unable to tap into this power supply as it is a private project for GSI. There are other community projects available that allow for this.

City Attorney Romano informed the group that the map for this project and the application show the project set on two separate, yet adjoining, parcels. Per the guidelines for a solar facility, there can only be one use on a parcel. The property must be subdivided into a single lot for the solar facility prior to any further proceedings. There must also be a performance and payment bond provided.

Motion by Alderman Brown and seconded by Alderman Bryant to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried (7-0).

The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:38 P.M.