Town of North Yarmouth Solar Research Committee Meeting Minutes of Monday, December 14, 2020

<u>Call to Order</u> – Byron Kern, Chris Byers, Kelly Walker, and Andy Walsh were present. Selectperson Harrell was also present. Chairperson Kern called the meeting to order.

<u>Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)</u> – By consensus, the committee agreed that the minutes of November 30, 2020 were a factual record of the meeting.

Old Business:

<u>Potential Solar Project Opportunities</u> – Chris Byers gave a presentation to the committee on six (6) potential solar farm opportunities in North Yarmouth. The parcels he discussed were: 013-021, 004-169, 013-055, 007-066, and 001-030. Andy Walsh made a comment that parcel 004-169 (Skyline Farms) could be a potential problem due to community push back. Chris Byers agreed with that assessment due to the loss of farmland and recreational use of the nearby property. Chris Byers emphasized that solar farms, to be financially feasible, should be withing 1 mile from 3-phase power.

New Business:

<u>Solar Checklist</u> – The committee spoke about exploring private solar development, public development (municipal use), and how the town could better utilize land already not being used by the Yarmouth Water District. Andy Walsh mentioned that the Yarmouth Water District owns most of the land in North Yarmouth due to the town's abundant aquifers. The committee chose to explore further all the properties owned by the Yarmouth Water District.

<u>Educational Outreach</u> – The committee discussed ways on improving communication to residents through educational outreach. The committee spoke about creating an FAQ list that would be shared on the town's website, social media pages, Reminders from Town Hall, and the town's cable channel.

Any Other Business – The committee agreed to have their next meeting on January 4, 2020.

<u>Adjournment</u> - Chairperson Kern moved to adjourn.

Prepared By: Draven Walker Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary