

## October 18th, 2016 LaFayette Town Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Town Board Special Meeting held by the LaFayette Town Board on October 18th, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the LaFayette Commons Office Building at 2577 Route 11 in the Town of LaFayette.

Present: Andrew Ohstrom, Councilor  
Kerry Evans, Councilor,  
Melanie Palmer, Councilor  
Doug Daniel, Councilor

Absent: Steve Zajac, Councilor

Recording Secretary: Jacqueline G. Roorda, Town Clerk

Others Present: Thomas Chartrand, Budget Officer  
Ralph Lamson, Bldg. & Code Enforcement  
Michael Johnson, Resident

1. Supervisor Ohstrom called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and welcomed all in attendance.
2. The Town Clerk, Jackie Roorda took the Roll. Councilor Zajac Absent, all other members present.
3. Free Standing Solar Panel Installations

Supervisor Ohstrom advised that a sizable solar project has been brought before the Planning Board which prompted investigation while looking at the Comprehensive Plan and researching all aspects of the effects that a large utility station will have on the Town of LaFayette.

Discussions included:

Residential vs. Commercial;  
Number of Solar Panels  
Panel size  
Watts/kilowatts/megawatts,  
Screening  
Free standing vs. roof mounts  
Within hamlet/outside hamlet  
Compliance with Comprehensive Plan  
Open Space Plan

New Zoning Ordinances  
NYSERTA/National Grid height limits for panels  
Pro Solar State mandate  
Looking at the Farm Protection Plan  
Disposal of panels when no longer effective

Further discussions took place proposing a six month Moratorium to investigate and get more information on Solar Farms, environmental impacts, processes that need to be followed, etc. which resulted in the following resolution.

**TOWN OF LAFAYETTE**

**TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION**

**October 18, 2016**

Supervisor Ohstrom introduced proposed Local Law No. C-2016 regarding imposing a six (6) month moratorium on Free Standing Solar Panel Installations within the Town of LaFayette and made the following Resolution, which was seconded by Councilor Daniel:

**WHEREAS**, this moratorium will enable the Town to undertake review and comprehensively address the issues involved with free standing solar panel installations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town recognizes the potential benefits and desirability of solar power energy sources, but determines that time and research is necessary to determine how to properly regulate such installations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has deemed this moratorium urgent and immediately necessary in order to preserve status quo while this issue is examined by the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, the moratorium does not apply to residential solar panel applications with a rated capacity of 12 kw or less so long as the power generated by said residential solar panels is principally used for the residential use on the property; and

**WHEREAS**, proposed Local Law C-2016 has been introduced and will be considered for enactment pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law; and

**WHEREAS**, no other agency has the legal authority or jurisdiction to approve or directly undertake the enactment of Local Laws in the Town of LaFayette, such that there are no other involved agencies within the meaning of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) with respect to the proposed enactment of said Local Law.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is

**RESOLVED AND DETERMINED**, that there are no other involved agencies, the Town Board shall act as lead agency, and that the enactment of this proposed local law, is a Type II action under SEQR, thus concluding the environmental review process; and it is further

**RESOLVED AND DETERMINED**, that the Town Board shall conduct a public hearing as to the enactment of proposed Local Law C-2016 at the Town Hall located at LaFayette Town Hall, 2577 Route 11, LaFayette, New York, on November 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, at which time all persons interested in the subject shall be heard.

The question of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote and, upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

<b>Kerry Evans</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Melanie Palmer</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Steven J. Zajac</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Excused</b>
<b>Douglas Daniel</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Andrew Ohstrom</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>

The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

4. Motion to audit and pay bills.

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>9900-9911</b>	<b>\$ 6,135.01</b>
<b>Special District</b>	<b>9882, 9899</b>	<b>\$ 535.27</b>

**Supervisor Ohstrom moved and Evans seconded the motion to audit and pay the above listed bills.**

**Motion carried 4 - 0.**

<b>Andrew Ohstrom</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Douglas Daniel</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Kerry Evans</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Melanie Palmer</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>

5. Town Clerk Jackie Bush Roorda advised the Town Board that effective December 31, 2016 she will no longer be taking on the role of Secretary to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals and gave her written letter stating so.

6. Motion to adjourn.

**Supervisor Ohstrom moved Daniel and seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.**

**Motion carried 4 - 0.**

<b>Andrew Ohstrom</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Douglas Daniel</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Kerry Evans</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Melanie Palmer</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>

The Town Board Meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline G. Roorda  
Town Clerk