

St. Albans Zoning Commission
Work Session for Solar and Noise

October 19, 2023

Present: Pam, Mike, Greg, Mary, David and Carolyn

Pam called work session to order 5:10 and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pam said she sent the landscaping/buffer draft to Jim and Stephanie.

Solar - Greg talked to a farmer in Hartford and was offered \$1300/acre/year for solar fields. Dave Sapp said the group prep ruins the ground. Greg said the reclamation would be a nightmare and would it ever be good farmland again? Dave said a hail storm would be a mess. Dave Dicks said Harrison twp has a new one but there are construction delays. Liberty twp has restricted it and would be easier to copy theirs. Pam will try to get a copy of their petition they sent to the county. Dean found it online. Mary said we should get public opinion. Greg thinks there is legal ground to prohibit industrial solar. Pam asked if we should have a public informational meeting to hear what everyone thinks. Mike thinks those for solar might just keep quiet. We'll have the informational meeting 11/6 at 7:00 before our usual meeting and Mary will come up with comment cards so all can share their feelings. Will publicize on twp web page and other facebook pages.

Noise - usual is 85 decibels for idling and 100 decibels running farming equipment. We can't restrict those already in place but maybe going forward - residential vs commercial. Pam found ORC 505.172 says twps. can adopt resolutions in residential areas. Granville twp is policed by zoning inspector. Mike will try to find surrounding area restrictions in place.

Pam will make sure Stephanie and Jim know when our next meeting is.

Water and sewer - another hot topic - Bruce said "they were working on it"

Dave moved and Mike 2nd to adjourn work session at 7:05, motion passed.