

**TONOPAH TOWN BOARD  
PUBLIC WORKSHOP AGENDA  
March 8, 2023  
Tonopah Convention Center  
301 Brougner Avenue, Tonopah, NV 89049  
5:00 P.M.**

Chairman Don Kaminski brought the Tonopah Town Board public workshop to order on March 8, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:

Vice-Chairman Jerry Elliston  
Member Joni Eastley  
Member Zachary Newell

Absent:

Clerk Marc Grigory

6 others were in attendance

1. Public Comment  
None.
2. Workshop: Presentation and discussion regarding proposed Solar Projects near Tonopah to establish where the residents of Tonopah would support utility scale solar projects and what regulations they would suggest to the Nye County BoCC and to issue a letter of recommendation to the BoCC.  
Nye County Planning Director Brett Waggoner presented.

Recapped on ordinance for Special Use Permits (SUP's).

6 month moratorium put in place (end of November) on submitted applications to get input from the Towns and stakeholders.

There are no applications within the town limits of Tonopah.

Mr. Waggoner will make sure these goes into ordinance:

Requirement for a development agreement

Water impact analysis

Member Eastley:

Supports development agreement in this case

Recommendation to pool the development agreement that Nye County signed with Solar Reserve. BoCC adopted that agreement

Solar Reserve committed to \$100,000 funding a year for 3 years for community development

Suggested a town board member or Mr. Westerlund be involved in the negotiating process of the development agreement to ensure that the Town also benefits, not just the County.

Also, sit down with the Esmeralda County Commissioners or a Commissioner and work out an MOA with them regarding proposed solar projects in their county and near Tonopah as it will impact the Town of Tonopah.

Mr. Waggoner:

Some issues experienced in Pahrump with solar projects:

Permitted in Clark County and outside of Pahrump; water they're getting for the project is coming from a well in Pahrump. Trucks are hauling water constantly. The company has no interest in putting a well on the property where they are developing, most likely due to expense.

He stated the same could happen if a solar project starts up in Esmeralda County, they could seek water from Tonopah (TPU).

Discussion regarding post closure remediation. Where does the material go; i.e. solar panels? They are not allowed to dispose of them at the County landfill. The landfill is not equipped to take them.

Concern about air quality due to the dust; areas being disturbed.

Beatty feels like they are getting boxed in with the potential of solar project as well as mines, test site, etc.

Temperatures can be raised by 20-30 degrees.

Discussion about a buffer or certain distance from the Town office.

Chris Yancey:

Capacity of existing transmission lines.

More infrastructure required for these solar projects?

Yes per Mr. Yancey.

Mr. Waggoner stated that some of the towns may have a representative or two from each and have a teams' meeting to discuss concerns.

He may also ask for an extension of the moratorium to ensure everyone has a clear understanding on this issue.

Ms. Eastley inquired what he would like from the Board. Mr. Waggoner stated that he would like a letter in support of or opposed to and include any concerns.

3. Public Comment  
None.

4. Adjourn  
Workshop adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Mills, Deputy Town Clerk

Approved:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Kaminski, Chairman

  
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Jerry W. Elliston, Vice-Chairman

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Marc Grigory, Clerk

  
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Joni Eastley, Member

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Zachary Newell, Member

Tonopah Town Board Workshop Minutes  
For meeting held: March 8, 2023

Approved at meeting held:  
May 10, 2023