

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA HELD ON THE 10th DAY OF APRIL, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE BOARD CHAMBERS, MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, 755 ROANOKE STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA:

R-FY-23-103

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND PLANNING STAFF TO STUDY, ADDRESS AND SEEK PUBLIC COMMENT AND INPUT ON LARGE SCALE SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS WHERE THE PRIMARY LAND USE IS THE CONVERSION OF SOLAR ENERGY TO ELECTRICITY AND RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROPRIATE CHANGES TO THE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND ZONING ORDINANCE

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Steve R. Fijalkowski and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, Localities across Virginia and throughout the United States, have seen an increase in requests to place large scale solar energy systems where the primary land use is to convert solar energy to electricity to be sold to the electric grid; and

WHEREAS, When the Montgomery County Comprehensive Plan was developed in 2005, solar energy technology was still in its infancy stage and was not specifically addressed within the County Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors did address solar energy systems with the update to the County Zoning Ordinance in 2016 by defining solar energy systems and providing guidance on the Zoning Districts where such development would be allowed by right or by Special Use Permit; and

WHEREAS, With the increase in demand for renewable energy projects using large scale solar energy systems, the Board of Supervisors desires the Planning Commission and Planning Staff, to study, address and seek community comment and input on these particular land uses in Montgomery County and to recommend appropriate changes to the County Comprehensive Plan and County Zoning Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that the Board of Supervisors hereby requests the Montgomery County Planning Commission and Planning Staff to study and address large scale solar energy systems as a land use in Montgomery County, seeking community comment and input from those in the community with an interest in this study and to recommend appropriate changes to the County Comprehensive Plan and County Zoning Ordinance to better identify where such projects should be located and to better mitigate the potential impacts from solar energy development.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

AYE

Mary W. Biggs

Sara R. Bohn

April N. DeMotts

Steve R. Fijalkowski

M. Todd King

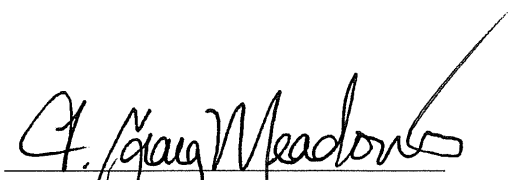
Darrell O. Sheppard

Sherri M. Blevins

NAY

None

ATTEST:



F. Craig Meadows
County Administrator