

November 8, 2021

The Saratoga Town Board met at 5:00 pm in the town hall. Chairman Rickaby called the meeting to order. All members were present. The meeting was officially noted on November 4, 2021.

Mike Braley, Greg McTavish, and Mary Eiler-Radl from Alliant Energy were present. Tony Palese from Alliant Energy, and Kim Griffin from Wood County Solar were present by Zoom.

The Board discussed the last survey that was done. Most common land use residents would like to see was recreational and residential in the Town.

Alliant stated that Alliant doesn't have a lot of money for projects, but they do have connections to help. They have worked with North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

Several Supervisors stated that they would like the land along Highway 13 to be used for business development. Alliant stated that they have no involvement in the second proposed solar array since they are not the developers.

Supervisor Leichtnam read through of list of 10 ideas that the Town may be interested in for future projects; Administrative Assistance-specifically a grant writer, Town Beautification ("blighted" areas), Broadband expansion, Equipment upgrades, Affordable Housing, Improvements to Town roads & bridges, Acquisition of Land for whatever purpose, Marketing the Town, A recreation area of some sort, Renovations to Town Hall/Administrative Building.

In the current developer's agreement the Town and Alliant have for the Wood County Solar Project, Alliant has agreed to create a viewing area that would cost up to \$10,000. There was a suggestion from the Board to include composting toilets, a bike rack, and a charging station. Alliant stated that they will begin creating a pull-in area against the fencing on Rangeline Road in spring 2022.

Alliant Representatives stated the Alliant Foundation may be able to help with nature preserves and recreational areas, but not on buildings.

Alliant is currently working with Mid-State Technical College. Classes are coming onsite and Alliant is helping teach the class. They would be interested in including high school classes.

The Board requested progress pictures of the solar array. Alliant has been and will continue to take pictures. Building Wisconsin has a video clip in their newsletter and will forward a link to that to the Town.

Supervisor Kretschmer would like to see the picture of the tractor removed from the solar site.

Alliant goals are to have the 2030 CO2 levels at 50% of 2020 levels. They also want to plant one million trees.

A future meeting will be set up after the first of January 2022.

Leichtnam made a motion to adjourn. Carrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Typed by minutes taken by Billie-Jo Kester, Treasurer  
Heidi Kawleski, Clerk