

Lewiston extends solar law moratorium

Town to hold Dec. 14 public hearing on amended solar law

Agnello notes 'pleasant surprise' with September sales tax
BY TERRY DUFFY
 Editor-in-Chief

The Town of Lewiston approved measures at its Monday meeting to extend the moratorium on utility scale solar installations in the town for an additional two months.

The measure by Councilman Bill Geiben followed an announced public hearing that saw no comments on the amended solar law. In explaining the town's reasoning on extending the measure, attorney for the town Tom Seaman said that delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to follow through on requirements related to the state environmental quality review process contributed to the moratorium extension.

"We now have a law amending

the industrial solar section of our code, but it's going to take a couple of months, six weeks to do the coordinated review for SEQR," he said. "We thought it was prudent to extend the moratorium by just a couple more months to allow us to comply with SEQR."

"The plan is, we'll take action on this law tonight and then set a public hearing for December. This will allow us enough time for our engineer to do the coordinated review for SEQR."

Soon after, the Town Board went on to procedurally approve the solar moratorium for an additional two months by a 5-0 vote. It also approved the amended local law covering utility solar installations as well as setting public hearing on the measure for 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14. The board, likewise, approved that measure, plus one for it to act as lead agent for

the SEQR review and for Town Engineer Robert Lannon to circulate the coordinated review document to all interested agencies.

Details on the solar law amendment are expected to be available for public review on the town's website, www.townoflewiston.us.

In other news from the brief session:

•Town Finance/Budget officer Jacqueline Agnello issued the 2021 preliminary budget for board review. By the numbers, the \$18,353,414 preliminary budget total reflects a slight adjustment drop in overall town spending (appropriations and special districts) from the Sept. 28 tentative plan of \$18,367,654. However, the final amount to be raised by taxes - \$4,438,070 - remains the same.

In preparing the resolution to accept the preliminary plan, at-

torney Seaman instructed board members, "The resolution should be that the town adopts the tentative budget amendments as the preliminary budget."

Soon after, that measure and one to hold a schedule a public hearing (6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5) to adopt the 2021 plan were both approved.

"That is not a meeting night, but a special meeting on this matter," Supervisor Steve Broderick said of the Nov. 5 session. The budget faces adoption for submission to the state by Nov. 20.

Agnello also made note of some good financial news for the town.

"On Friday, we received our September sales tax; it was a half-million dollars," she said.

Agnello commented that, in keeping records dating back to 2007, "It was the largest money we've received to date. I was very

surprised; it was not anticipated.

"I'm not aware where we're headed, but it was a pleasant surprise."

"It was a big number," Broderick said. "In a lot of times, that particular sales tax in September is the back to school sales tax, but thank God they started charging internet sales tax; I think that's where a lot of this is from. Let's hope that keeps up. That was some positive news."

•Wrapping up, Geiben said he would be following up this week with consultant Jason Kulaszewski on the town's clean energy/climate smart planning objectives, its bronze "clean energy" status with the New York state, and future projects the town is considering.

More on this, as news develops.

Army Corps details NFSS 'balance of plant' remediation

Alternative 3 plan is choice among 5 options

BY TERRY DUFFY
 Editor-in-Chief

Roughly 60 participants learned more on the Army Corps' alternative 3 "balance of plant" selection plan for the 191-acre Niagara Falls Storage Site in Lewiston during an Oct. 21 virtual presentation.

The next phase in the Army Corps' remediation plans for the government facility on Pletcher Road, the alternative 3 plan follows on its feasibility study issued in 2019 for the balance of plant on the operable units at the NFSS, as well as ground water units. It comes off the Army Corps' record of decision on the \$490 million remediation project announced earlier for the 10-acre Interim Waste Containment Structure at NFSS to completely remove the cell's radioactive contaminants.

"A record of decision was signed for the Interim Waste Containment Structure in 2019. The selected remedy was to completely remove the contents ... the most significant source of contamination at the site," the Army Corps said. "Since then, the district has actively pursued the development of the remedial design contract. ... We expect to award this design contract in 2021."

With regard to contamination, the Army Corps presentation revealed, "areas of contaminated media above preliminary remediation goals that warrant cleanup" at NFSS. Included were "radionuclides of concern" in soils, in building 433 and the foundations of former buildings 433, 431 and 432 on the north central and northeast areas of the NFSS. Contaminants include uranium, thorium-230 and radium-226.

Chemicals of concern revealed volatile organic compounds found in soil and groundwater, polychlorinated biphenyls in pipeline sediments, water in drains at building 401 and its concrete foundation, and the presence of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons on surface soils and building foundations. Other areas impacted include 5,400 cubic-yards of soil and road bedding on the site, 1,000 cubic-yards of contaminants along the

sides of the building 431 and 432 foundations, and 727 cubic-yards of impacted materials around the foundation of former building 401 and its drains.

In its review of the corrective measures considered for the site, the Army Corps presented five alternatives. Included was alternative 1, no action. This option was issued for comparison purposes, but is viewed as being not protective of human health and the environment.

Other options include alternative 2 - complete removal; alternative 3 - removal with building decontamination; alternative 4 - removal with building decontamination and "in situ" remediation (a method of breaking down and purifying hazardous substances in soil and groundwater); and alternative 5 - removal with building 401 decontamination, scarification of building 433, and the foundations of buildings of 430 and 431/432, and the aforementioned "in situ" remediation.

The Army Corps stated it found alternative 3 comparable to alternative 2. It calls for all impacted soils, contaminated building foundations and the building 401 founda-

tion and impacted drains that exceed preliminary remediation goals to be removed and disposed of in a permitted off-site facility. In addition, volatile organic compound-contaminated soils and groundwater in the plume in the north area would be removed and backfilled.

Alternative 3 also calls for building 433 and the foundations of former buildings 430, 431/432 to be left in place and decontaminated (scarified) to remove risks associated with the foundations.

The Army Corps also indicated in its plans for alternatives 2 through 5, that, "following removal of all materials exceeding the feasibility study preliminary remediation goals, the excavated areas would be backfilled, the site would be restored and would be suitable for industrial land use."

In its comparative analysis, using balancing criteria under the federal government's Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (aka CERCLA or Superfund), the Army Corps said it found alternative 3 rated "high" in long-term effectiveness and permanence;

SEE CORPS, continued on Page 5

Painters Plus vehicle sanitation event

Free for veterans

America's Disinfecting Defense Unit Solutions (ADDUS), a division of Painters Plus Home Decorating Inc., announced this week it would host a drive-thru vehicle sanitation event at 800 Walck Road from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Veterans Day, Wednesday, Nov. 11.

The service is free for veterans and half-price for those with an active military ID (\$10). For all other patrons looking to have a cleaner and safer car environment, the service is regularly priced at \$20.

"We just wanted to do something nice for the veterans; help them out and make sure their vehicles are safe," said Painters Plus CEO Jesse Gooch. "It also allows us to show the community our service and what we can do for them."

The service is offered on a first-come, first-served basis, but interested parties are encouraged to RSVP via the Facebook event page, www.facebook.com/events/447110646267270/.

A press release said, "Sanitations are said to take roughly a minute each and are conducted using ADDUS's nontoxic, all-natural product that is said to kill 99.9% of all bacteria and viruses, including the coronavirus."

"The company has built a reputation recently as a leading sanitation solution for many local

businesses and organizations, including Cask & Cow restaurant, NT Deli and Cafe/Submasters, and the Niagara Climbing Center, as well as Fairhaven Church, which ADDUS sanitizes each week before services."

For more information on ADDUS' products and services, visit www.addusnow.us.

Gooch also serves as a Niagara County legislator.

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Don't be in the "Dark" about Dizziness!

Spooked by dizzy spells? We don't blame you. Fretting over this frightful symptom can be a chilling experience.

Dizziness ranges anywhere from being momentarily annoying...to seriously disabling. But there's no need for you to suffer any longer!

There is now evidence proving that some cases of dizziness or vertigo may have nothing to do with vascular disease! Rather, the symptoms may be from a condition called "cervical vertigo", caused by musculoskeletal imbalances in the neck.

Research conducted by a medical/chiropractic team clearly showed that patients with this condition responded very well to chiropractic neck adjustments.

In fact, over half the patients that were studied, reported complete remission of symptoms of vertigo by the end of their chiropractic program!

If you've been under stress, had a car accident, a fall or a sports injury, you may have one or more misaligned vertebrae in your neck.

Chiropractic adjustments can remove nerve interference that may be causing your dizziness. Other causes can be detected and addressed through our nutritional testing procedures. Low blood sugar can cause dizziness too, so watch the sweets this Halloween. Additionally, our doctors employ the epley maneuver as well.

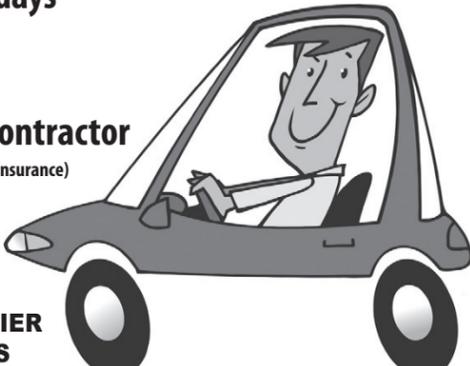
End the suspense. Find out if we can help you...BOOK your appointment soon, call 754-9039. Rose Chiropractic, P.C. is located at 435 Ridge St., Lewiston.

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