



The Town of East Greenbush

225 Columbia Turnpike, Rensselaer, New York 12144

TOWN BOARD MINUTES PUBLIC HEARING June 8, 2022

To view a recording of the full meeting, please visit Town Hall Streams or Facebook link below:

https://townhallstreams.com/stream.php?location_id=119&id=45781

<https://www.facebook.com/TownofEG/videos/1214624962626486/>

The following is a summary of the Town Board Public Hearing as recorded by the Town Clerk.

Call to Order **6:00 PM**
Pledge of Allegiance
Town Board Meeting:

Members of Town Board

Present

Absent

Supervisor J. Conway
Councilor T. Tierney
Councilor H. Kennedy
Councilor B. Fritz
Councilor E. Nestler

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that pursuant to the direction of the East Greenbush Town Board, the Town Board shall hold a public hearing on **June 8, 2022**, at **6:00 P.M.**, at the East Greenbush Town Hall located at 225 Columbia Turnpike in the Town of East Greenbush, to receive comments from the public about a proposed local law as follows:

A local law enacting provisions relating to Battery Energy Storage Systems.

With the advent of intermittent renewable power sources, such as wind and solar, and their increasing role in providing energy in the Town and in New York state, energy storage systems are becoming more common as a means to smooth and time-shift renewable generation. As the power grid becomes more decentralized, these systems will store energy and allow it to be provided when and where demand is greatest. Battery energy storage systems should also help meet peak power needs using renewable sources and allow a shift away from other types of peak generating sources, including those using fossil fuels. In this context, the Town desires to responsibly accommodate battery energy storage systems by establishing procedural frameworks

and substantive requirements for residential, commercial, and utility-scale battery energy storage systems.

The Battery Energy Storage Systems local law would provide the following: 1) Establish definitions relating to Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), including creating two permitting frameworks (i.e., Tier 1 and Tier 2) for different size BESS systems; 2) Address safety in system design, first responder training and response, system and property ownership changes, and BESS decommissioning; 3) specify the zoning districts in which BESS are permitted in Town and the general requirements for permit applications; and 4) Set forth site plan and special use permit review standards relating to, e.g., screening/buffering, vegetation and tree cutting, noise, and lighting, as well as establish specific site plan and special use permit approval conditions for BESS.

A copy of the local law may be inspected at the Office of the Town Clerk during regular business hours. A copy of the proposed local law is also available on the Town’s website at:

<https://www.eastgreenbush.org/>

Proposed Local Law-Battery Energy Storage Systems

Written comments may be submitted to the Town Board by email to epangburn@eastgreenbush.org or by mail to the Town Board, Town of East Greenbush, 225 Columbia Turnpike, Rensselaer, New York 12144 at any time prior to the hearing.

By order of the East Greenbush Town Board

Dated: May 25, 2022

Ellen Pangburn, Town Clerk

Supervisor Conway – Read attached recommendation submitted by Planning Chair, Matt Mastin.

Open Public Privilege:

Residents addressed comments to the Town Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Supervisor Conway and seconded by Councilor Kennedy and brought to a vote as follows:

Supervisor J. Conway	VOTED: YES
Councilor H. Kennedy	VOTED: YES
Councilor B. Fritz	VOTED: YES
Councilor T. Tierney	VOTED: YES
Councilor E. Nestler	VOTED: ABSENT

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Pangburn
East Greenbush Town Clerk

DRAFT

**BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS,
LOCAL LAW
REFERRAL TO TOWN BOARD
May 25, 2022**

MOTION OF RECOMMENDATION TO TOWN BOARD:

MOTION: A motion was made by Chairman Mastin as follows: **In accordance with Section 4.4.1.B of the Town's Comprehensive Zoning Law the Planning Board hereby favorably recommends adoption of a Town Board proposal to adopt Battery Energy Storage System Local Law.**

In making this recommendation the Planning Board has reviewed, among other documents, the Town's Comprehensive Zoning Law, the Town's Comprehensive Plan, the Conservation Advisory Council's Solar Assessment, dated September 2021 and other materials.

In making this recommendation the Planning Board finds that such change does not conflict with the general purposes goals, and intent of the Comprehensive Zoning Law; and

Such change is consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

Seconded by Don Panton & roll called as follows:

M. Mastin-YES; K. Bergmann-YES; R. Viola-NO; D. Panton-YES; J. Conway-YES.

MOTION CARRIED BY A 4-1 VOTE