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August 13, 2026

TO: President & Village Trustees (Sitting as a Committee-of-the-Whole)

FROM: Scot Wrighton, Interim Village Administrator

RE: Parameters for Evaluating Stand Alone Evaluating Solar Energy Arrays

It is anticipated that the Village Board will soon have the opportunity to review a request for a special use permit that would allow the installation of a stand-alone solar energy system (SES), as opposed to a smaller solar installation that is ancillary, or accessory, to another primary land use. This may raise certain policy questions that the governing body may wish to resolve generally, and in advance, about SES installations before drilling into the details of a site-specific application.

Working through policy matters that require greater clarity before they can be adopted, or informally discussing the pros and cons of potential policy matters the Village Board hopes to formally approve or deny in the future is the primary purpose of Committee-of-the-Whole meetings. Committee-of-the-Whole meetings are gatherings where no votes are taken, but where board-level policy issues are informally “hashed out” in ways that hopefully move board members closer to consensus, and give clarity and clearer instructions to staff on how to prepare policy documents for eventual final adoption at a Village Board meeting.

The attached “white paper” asks board members whether the review of SES installations should be based solely on processes and criteria set forth in the 2023 and 2025 SES ordinances, or if additional decision rules should figure in to the evaluation of SES projects.

In addition to addressing the policy questions posed by the attached “white paper,” the Board may also want to discuss whether they are satisfied with the village’s processes, mechanisms and procedures for reviewing SES applications, as they are laid out in the ordinances adopted by the Village Board in 2023 and 2025 (copies included in this packet).