

**WABASHA PLANNING COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
April 29, 2020 6:00 PM**

MEETING AGENDA

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Changes or Additions to Agenda
- 3) Public Comment
- 4) Old Business
 - A) Solar Garden Moratorium
- 5) Adjourn

Planning Commission

4) A)

Meeting Date: 04/29/2020

SUBJECT: Solar Garden Moratorium

DEPARTMENT: Planning & Zoning

TITLE:

Solar Garden Moratorium

PURPOSE:

As requested at the last Planning Commission meeting the commission wanted to discuss the possibility of imposing a Solar Garden Moratorium to provide more time to study the City's capacity.

Attachments

Moratorium Ordinance

Solar Study Resolution

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN INTERIM ORDINANCE PROHIBITING LAND USE
APPROVALS FOR SOLAR GARDENS/FARMS IN
THE CITY OF WABASHA

The City Council of the City of Wabasha ordains as follows:

Section I. Definitions. The following terms and definitions used in this ordinance shall be interpreted to mean as follows:

Land Use Approvals. Rezoning, zoning ordinance amendments, conditional use permits, interim land use permits, variances, planned unit developments, site plan reviews and approvals, building permits, subdivisions, similar permits and approvals.

Solar Garden/Farm. A solar power installation that accepts capitol from and provides output credit and tax benefits to individuals and other investors.

This ordinance does not restrict or limit small scale solar structure installations that are an accessory use to residential, commercial or industrial properties and made to offset the energy use of the parcel.

Section II. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to promote proper land use planning, protect public health and safety and allow the City of Wabasha to complete an in-depth study of appropriate land use plans, and land use controls for the regulation of solar gardens/farms.

Section III. Temporary Prohibition. No applications shall be processed and no land use approvals shall be considered or issued for solar installations, until the studies referenced above are completed and appropriate land use controls have been adopted.

Section IV. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect upon its adoption and legal publication and shall remain in effect for one year or upon the date of adoption of land use controls referenced above, whichever occurs first.

Adopted by the City Council this ____ day of _____, 20____.

City of Wabasha

ATTEST:

Mayor

Clerk

Publication: _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**CITY OF WABASHA
WABASHA COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A STUDY OF SOLAR GARDENS/FARMS,
INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY, AND
APPROPRIATE LAND USE CONTROLS FOR THE
REGULATION OF PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF WABASHA**

WHEREAS, The City of Wabasha is concerned with the inundation of solar gardens within the municipal boundary and the impacts on the electrical infrastructure and interconnected power system that serves Wabasha residents; and

WHEREAS, The City of Wabasha is concerned with the dwindling inventory of residentially zoned property and its ability to meet projected population and households for the community as a result of solar gardens being constructed in residential guided and zoned properties; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wabasha has not completed any detailed analysis or study on appropriate density of solar gardens, acreage needed to meet residential needs or the effects of solar garden installations within the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council of Wabasha authorizes a study to be completed on the issues of solar garden systems, compatible land use, and inventory of residential land uses, including the recommendations for appropriate land use controls in regard to future solar gardens/fields.

Adopted by the City Council this ____ day of _____, _____.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk