

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF AUGUSTA  
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION No. 22-08**

***[RESOLUTION FOR MORATORIUM  
LARGE SCALE SOLAR PROJECTS]***

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Augusta, Washtenaw County, Michigan held at the Township Hall in said Township on the 22 day of March, 2022.

**PRESENT:** Adams, Burek, Fuqua-Frey, Gonczy, Hall, Ortiz, Shelby

**ABSENT:** None

The following preamble and Resolution were offered by Member Hall and seconded by Member Fuqua-Frey.

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, 2006 P.A. 110, being MCL 125.3101 et seq., authorizes Augusta Township (the "Township") to adopt reasonable regulations to control the establishment and use of Large Scale Solar Energy Systems in accordance with the Township's Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the current Zoning Ordinance, as amended by Ordinance No. 2020-1, a zoning text amendment to allow Large Scale Solar Energy systems in all zoned Agricultural Residential districts in the Township, appears to inconsistent with the primary goals and objectives stated in the Township's Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township has become aware of an increase of Large Solar Energy Facilities in the region, which is an emerging land use not sufficiently contemplated in the current Master Plan nor by the adoption of Ordinance No. 2020-1 allowing for Large Scale Solar Energy uses almost anywhere in the Township; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission has commenced the process of reviewing the Master Plan for the purpose of updating it to include recognition of Large Scale Commercial Solar uses in the Township as an emerging land use in the region; and

**WHEREAS**, integration of Large Solar Energy land use within the Township's existing land uses requires suitable regulations and controls to ensure compliance with the Township's Master Plan, among other things, by preserving agricultural property, and for the protection of general health, safety and welfare of all of the Township's residents;

**WHEREAS**, this Board believes it is prudent and wise in light of the emergence of Large Scale Solar Energy land uses in the region, and in the Township specifically, to take time to consider amendments to its Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance to assure proper locating and regulation of Large Solar Energy System uses in the Township to

better protect the public health, safety, and welfare of Township residents; and

**WHEREAS**, imposing a moratorium, on a limited temporary basis, is reasonable and necessary in order to allow the Township Planning Commission time to fully explore, analyze, research and develop proposed amendments to the Master Plan and the Township Zoning Ordinance, and to make recommendations to the Township Board regarding such amendments applicable to Large Scale Solar Energy System uses in the Township; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, a moratorium is hereby imposed upon the issuance of any and all permits, licenses, or approvals for any property subject to or under the jurisdiction of the Township's Zoning Ordinance for the establishment or use of any new Large Solar Energy System uses in the Township. For the purpose of this moratorium, a Large Solar Energy System shall be as defined in Section 2 of the Zoning Ordinance. The moratorium imposed by this Resolution shall remain in effect for six (6) months following the effective date of this Resolution, or until Large Solar Energy System regulatory amendments to the Township's Zoning Ordinance become effective, whichever occurs first. Before this moratorium expires, the Township may by resolution extend the moratorium for up to six (6) months to allow sufficient time to complete amendments to its Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance, if necessary. If an extension is adopted, the Township will publish notice of the extension.


ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Fuqua-Frey, Gonczy, Hall, Ortiz, Shelby

Nays: Adams, Burek

Absent: N o n e


**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Shelby, Supervisor, Augusta Township

  
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Kimberly Gonczy, Clerk, Augusta Township

**CERTIFICATE**

I, Kimberly Gonczy, certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Augusta Township Board of Trustees, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, at the Regular Meeting held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, and that public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended.

  
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Kimberly Gonczy,  
Clerk, Augusta Township