

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY**

**TOWN OF OPHIR, CO 81426**

**TUESDAY AUGUST, 2023 7:00 PM**

**OPHIR TOWN HALL 36 PORPHYRY ST.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

(7:10)

Voting Member: Elias Bahou, Daniel Forgrave, Cara Binkley, Judah Kuper, Teri Steinberg, Jacey DePriest, Kim Wheels, Eric Beerman, David Callicott, Natalie Fijalkoski, Larry Rosen, Gerald Oyama, Allyn Hart

**ADOPTION & SIGNATURE OF JULY 25TH, 2023 MEETING  
MINUTES**

Judah motions to approve and adopt, Teri seconds

All in Favor (Yay): Unanimous

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Judah motions to approve, Teri seconds

All in Favor (Yay): Unanimous

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

A. Judah nominates Daniel Foregrave to P&Z, Teri seconds

All in Favor (Yay): Unanimous

**STAFF REPORTS**

A. Judah updates re: microgrid. Plan is for lots in block 10 next to cemetery. 12hr battery backup for emergency use. Should be net

zero power for town. SMPA funded and owned. 25 year lease could be thought of as a “land bank” for block 10.

Kim mentions town approached SMPA 8-10 years ago inquiring about solar for the town. More recently the idea was re-approached and the DOLA grant is now available.

Cara asks about power numbers, life cycles and where the data is coming from

Judah notes most of the questions would be answered during the feasibility study. Studies/reports would be shared with GA during process.

Kim mentions the grid would provide 100% of usage for Ophir’s yearly use. John Griser would do feasibility studies as part of grant process.

Teri asks how do we feel about using lots for solar not housing or something else. What does it mean to give up these lots?

Kim mentions we have a year from July to complete feasibility study to be eligible for the grant

Eric asks if we have control of the power

Kim notes the grid doesn’t work that way. Power flows into the grid except for what is sent to/stored in the battery bank.

Judah adds there would be a 12 hour battery backup just for Ophir

John asks if we'd recharge batteries during a longer outage

Judah proposes a site visit to Last Dollar solar to check for noises, see how it looks, etc.

Teri requests John send an informational email for where to send questions regarding the process for SMPA, etc.

John asks Kim if SMPA could present at GA in Sept, vote to approve study could be in Oct.

Kim confirms that is in planning.

Kim proposes questions be directed to Judah and herself via email.

Cara mentions she's willing to share their personal solar data

Larry states he finds location offensive. It will violate view corridors. What's in it for us (the town)? Should town vote on location?

Judah notes we'd have to create an ordinance to free these lots from land bank.

John clarifies that the discussion is regarding a microgrid, the solar element is secondary.

Andy wonders what other communities working w/ DOLA grants are doing

Kim notes we are first in discussion with SMPA

ADJOURN

Andy motions to adjourn @ 9:05pm

*Minutes prepared by Ben Foster, Town Clerk*

*Audio recordings of all General Assembly Meetings are available to the public. Please contact the Town Clerk if you would like a copy of this month's audio of the meeting minutes.*