

**Minutes of Environmental Commission Meeting
March 31, 2021**

Members Present:

Andy Anderson, Mary Beth Postman, Louise Reich, Bruce Steinthal, Nick Schneider, Mary Beth Topor, Polly Zurlini

Andy corrected notes from February minutes (Solar), "Should say municipal roofs are not feasible." "The DPW yard is the new area for the solar field"

Shade Trees -

Bruce spoke to Andy Rosenberg re: Forestry Plan / Tree Ordinance and there currently existing are a number of regulations that require approval for the removal of trees. Mainly for new construction. Developers currently need a variance or site plan to cut down trees and must replace what is removed.

Borough Trees are currently covered under the ordinance, not private land trees. Enforcement of shade trees on public property is unenforceable.

In order to create an ordinance that would be approved that would avoid pushback from private residents.

Heather to send over Rivervale tree ordinance for review.

EV Stations -

Andy Anderson reviewed Volta and their model wont work in our location. Looking into the next steps to avoid costs to the borough.

Looking into if there will be any grants in the future and if any other new types of charging stations are available.

Solar

Heather reviewed the Miller Bros Proposal; they are 1 of 12 approved vendors in NJ. It is a power purchase agreement; 1MW megawatt of solar coming from the DPW field. (Mulch operations to be moved to the swim club parking lot over the winter) The solar project is estimated to take 6 months to complete 15-20 year contract and would be Net0 by 2030. No capital cost to the borough

All approved

Plastic Bags

3/1 the plastic bag ordinance went into effect. Signs are posted downtown. All stores in compliance, but the MiniMart at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm (Postman second)