



*Town of North Canaan
100 Pease St, North Canaan CT
Inland Wetlands Commission
October 22, 2026*

Present: Chairman Barry Brown, Matt Freund, Eric Whiting, Brian Allyn Jr.

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 7:01pm

Kevin Costello from CTEC, Jin Tao Senior Engineer from BMcD and Patrick and Lori Foley all on zoom

Mr. Costello showed presentation of a potential solar layout for the property at 35 Lower Road. There are other layouts still being discussed to see which is best for the property. The module count for the presented layout is 10000+ solar panels on about 25 acres. It is a 4.5 mega watt agrivoltaics solar farm. It would be dual use farming and solar. The idea is to create a dual use system for hay farming and sheep grazing with the life of the project being 20 years approximately. Because it is over 1 mega watt the siting council will be brought on. Tonight they are just looking for feedback. There would be very little ground disturbance with the panels 10-12 feet off of the ground and 15 feet between rows. These are movable panels tracking the movement of the sun. The panels do not impede ground growth. There is a gap between the panels to allow for the high tension wires. The parcels show up as potential wetlands area. Siting council supersedes local, but it is going to be more difficult to go through DEEP as they prohibit solar within wetlands. During application with siting council the town can be an intervener and provide comments. Stormwater off the panels is not large sheets of water. The volume is less and disseminates beneath the panels. Each panel is separated by a gap.

Next steps will be for them to schedule the formal wetlands delineation and follow up with this commission once they have those results. There has so far been no endangered species flagged on the parcel. They will do a full environmental impact report and the siting council applications are available to the public. They thanked the commission for listening and will be in touch with them to follow up.

Cromwell seminar- Chairman Brown said if anyone is interested they should attend. It was discussed that the town should become a member of the group. **Mr. Freund moved to ask the selectmen to join the group as a town member. Mr. Whiting seconded the motion.**

Motion carried. Mr. Brown will look into membership and pricing and have a conversation with Selectman Bunce.

There was a discussion of google earth and everyone having or not having it on their phones.

Mr. Brown stated he is interested in cleaning out a drainage ditch on his property and showed the map to the commission. He wanted to see if anyone thought there was an issue with it. It is not in wetlands. The commission did not see any issues.

Mr. Whiting moved to adjourn. Mr. Allyn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:39pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary