



Newfield Central School District

247 Main Street
Newfield, NY 14867

Phone (607) 564-9955
Fax (607) 564-0055

Dr. Cheryl Thomas, Superintendent

January 11, 2017

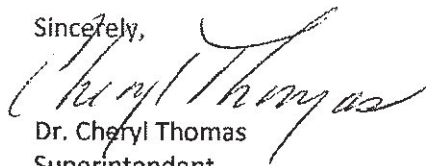
Peter Keane, Deputy Counsel
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

To Whom It May Concern:

Please be aware that the Newfield Central School District Board of Education passed a resolution to opt out of the exemption for solar or wind energy under New York State Real Property Tax Law §487 at their meeting on January 5, 2017 (copy attached).

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dr. Cheryl Thomas
Superintendent

xc: Max Joel, NYSERDA
Members, Board of Education
J. James, Business Administrator

**NEWFIELD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION
January 5, 2017**

Motion that the Board hereby resolves to opt out of the exemption under New York State Real Property Tax Law § 487 for solar or wind energy systems or farm waste energy systems within its jurisdiction; that the Board hereby authorizes and directs the Superintendent to file a copy of this resolution with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance and with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA); and that the Board further authorizes and directs the Superintendent to take all other actions necessary and proper to effect these resolutions.

Motion by Rene Borgella, second by Missy Rynone.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

In Favor: Rene Borgella, Scott Jackson, Linda Korbel, Paula Miller, Missy Rynone

Opposed: James Grochocinski

SIGNED

Catherine A. Shepura

TITLE

District Clerk

DATE

January 11, 2017



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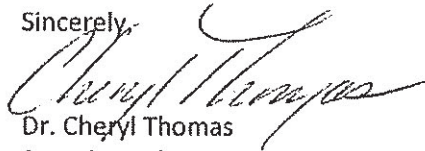
NYS Department of Taxation and Finance
W.A. Harriman Campus
Office of Counsel - Building 9 - Room 100
Albany, NY 12227

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Sincerely,



Dr. Cheryl Thomas
Superintendent

xc: Members, Board of Education
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In Favor: Rene Borgella, Scott Jackson, Linda Korbel, Paula Miller, Missy Rynone

Opposed: James Grochocinski

SIGNED

Catherine K. Shepas

TITLE

District Clerk

DATE

January 11, 2017



Newfield Central School District

247 Main Street
Newfield, NY 14867

Phone (607) 564-9955
Fax (607) 564-0055

Dr. Cheryl Thomas, Superintendent

January 10, 2017

Ms. Juliana Cavalcanti
Delaware River Solar, LLC
1460 Broadway
New York, NY 10036

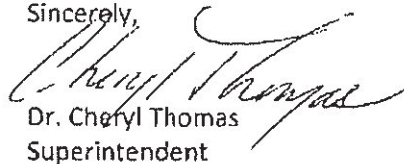
Dear Ms. Cavalcanti:

I am in receipt of your letter dated December 20, 2016, regarding your company's ongoing pursuit of a solar energy project in one or more towns in the Newfield Central School District.

Please be aware that the Board of Education passed a resolution to opt out of the exemption under New York State Real Property Tax Law §487 at their meeting on January 5, 2017 (copy of minutes attached). I am in the process of filing this resolution with the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance as well as NYSERDA.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dr. Cheryl Thomas
Superintendent

xc: Members, Board of Education
J. James, Business Administrator
J. Hart, Newfield Town Supervisor

Board of Education Meeting (Thursday, January 5, 2017)

Generated by Cathy Shipos on Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Members present

Rene Borgella, Scott Jackson, Linda Korbel, Paula Miller, Missy Rynone, James Grochocinski

Meeting called to order at 6:31 p.m. by L. Korbel, President.

Privilege of the Floor offered to all in attendance.

During **Board Comments**, M. Rynone reported that the BOCES capital project would be coming to the component districts for approval. She urged the Board to support. There will be a CNYSBA forum with Rick Timbs on January 30th and a Legislative Forum on February 9th at TST BOCES. M. Rynone commented that she felt it was disgraceful that the Boys Varsity Soccer coach did not feel that they deserved an end of year banquet. R. Borgella said that the coach told the team they didn't work as hard as they could have.

Reports and Discussions

Curriculum Share

C. Markle and L. White gave a presentation on the Middle School Home Base Advisory program. The Home Base program focuses on positive messages and activities which establish a tone for the building and translate into the classroom. The program has been effective in changing language and mindsets in the Middle School.

J. Stamp and B. Harris presented information on their "Pete the Cat" curriculum. The two co-teach kindergarten and first grade in library and music. There are over twenty Pete the Cat books in the series, many of which include activities and songs. The two have also worked with the art teacher to incorporate art in some of the lessons. The students are invested and love Pete.

Superintendent's Report

Opt-Out of NYS Tax Exemption for Solar Companies

C. Thomas described the options available to the school district in regard to the automatic tax exemption for solar projects. The District can choose to "opt out" of the exemption, but would need to act prior to permits being issued. There is also the possibility that a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) could be negotiated with the solar company. A couple of other school districts in the area have opted out. The Town of Newfield has not voted on the issue as yet. J. James commented that the town and school would be meeting with Jay Franklin from Tompkins County Assessment Office on January 17th to discuss the matter. Delaware Solar has approached the Town about developing a solar farm in Newfield.

The Board discussed the issue and had many questions, particularly about timing. Was it possible to ask the Town to wait to issue permits until the Board of Education decided on the opt out question? Some felt they didn't have enough information to make an informed decision. C. Thomas explained that, according to the lawyers, if the District votes to opt out it can change back. If the District fails to act and doesn't opt out, it is locked into the exemption. L. Korbel stated that she would opt out to save the taxpayers money. R. Borgella was in favor of opting out to preserve flexibility. When asked how much property was currently under consideration, J. James responded that there were three ten-acre lots in the Millard Hill Road area. J. Grochocinski requested that topic be on the next agenda for further discussion.

Resolution: That the Board hereby resolves to opt out of the exemption under New York State Real Property Tax Law § 487 for solar or wind energy systems or farm waste energy systems within its jurisdiction; that the Board hereby authorizes and directs the Superintendent to file a copy of this

resolution with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance and with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA); and that the Board further authorizes and directs the Superintendent to take all other actions necessary and proper to effect these resolutions.

Motion by Rene Borgella, second by Missy Rynone.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

In Favor: Rene Borgella, Scott Jackson, Linda Korbel, Paula Miller, Missy Rynone

Opposed: James Grochocinski

CSE Recommendations Tutorial

C. Thomas and C. Jackson gave a brief tutorial on CSE recommendations, including the Board's role in approving. Part 200 of NYS Education Law requires that the Board of Education approve implementation of CSE recommendations. The Board is approving the implementation of services, not the program. The Committee on Special Education has full authority to keep a child in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE). C. Thomas showed how to read CSE recommendations and defined some of the terms.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve items 2-6 on a consent agenda

Motion by Rene Borgella, second by Paula Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

In Favor: Rene Borgella, Scott Jackson, Linda Korbel, Paula Miller, Missy Rynone, James Grochocinski

2. Approve Claims

Resolution: Approval of the attached Claims (Warrants #39 & 41)

3. Approve CSE Recommendations

Resolution: Approval of the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and/or Committee on Preschool Special Education (Attachment 16-17-__)

4. Acceptance of Minutes

Resolution: Acceptance of the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on December 15, 2016

5. Appointment(s)

Resolution: Acceptance of the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint the following, pending fingerprint clearance where appropriate:

a) Jeanette Smith - permanent part time 10-month non-competitive position of Teacher Aide effective January 9, 2017 at the rate of \$9.70/hr (probationary period through March 8, 2018)

b) Peter Holm - three-year probationary appointment in the mathematics tenure area at the rate of \$50,000/yr. (to be pro rated) effective January 6, 2017 (with Jarema credit back to November 7, 2016) through November 6, 2019

c) Louis Pollio, Jr. - RESCIND the BOE's previous action to appoint as FT Cleaner effective January 3, 2017

d) John Zavatski - permanent full time 12 month labor class position of Cleaner effective January 9, 2017 at the rate of \$9.70/hr. (probationary period through January 8, 2018)

e) Taylor Bamforth - provisional appointment to the full time 12 month competitive position of Custodian at the rate of \$12.00/hr. and the concurrent acceptance of his resignation from the position of FT Cleaner effective January 9, 2017

6. Approve Substitute List(s)

Resolution: Approve the updated districtwide substitute lists (Attachment 16-17-___)

Privilege of the Floor was offered to all in attendance.

Motion to adjourn at 7:51 p.m.

Motion by Rene Borgella, second by James Grochocinski.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

In Favor: Rene Borgella, Scott Jackson, Linda Korbel, Paula Miller, Missy Rynone, James Grochocinski

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine L. Shipos
District Clerk