

RESOLUTION No. 2021-

***RELATIVE TO AMENDING CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS
ZONING ORDINANCE IN FURTHERENCE OF
REGULATION OF SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS***

Council Chairman Kenny Tompkins

WHEREAS, the solar energy industry has grown in recent years due to the economic and environment advantages of renewable energy, federal and state tax benefits and solar industry innovation; and

WHEREAS, among other things, the Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan for the City of Niagara Falls requires that land be used in the City in the most beneficial and convenient manner, preserving relationships among the residential, commercial, industrial and recreational areas within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls currently has no specific regulations related to the installation, implementation and operation of solar energy systems within its territorial boundaries; and

WHEREAS, without an inclusive and detailed plan by the City to address the development and operation of solar energy systems in the City of Niagara Falls, the above purposes and requirements referenced in the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance may be jeopardized; and

WHEREAS, to that end, the City has developed such a solar energy plan which is contained in the proposed Local Law No. 3 for the year 2021, entitled "Regulation of

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Solar Energy Systems”, the contents of which is intended to be incorporated into the City Zoning Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 1302.4.1 (B) (3) of the Zoning Ordinance, the City Council must, by resolution, submit its intention to amend the Zoning Ordinance and, upon adoption of said resolution, shall refer to the same to the City of Niagara Falls Planning Board for its recommendation; and

WHEREAS, this Council hereby submits the attached proposed amendments to of the Zoning Ordinance relative to the regulation of solar energy systems in furtherance thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council desires to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Niagara Falls New York relative to the regulation of solar energy systems; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council desires that the language contained in the current Zoning Ordinance be amended according to the attached proposed regulations; and be it further

RESOLVED that this proposed amendment be referred to the City of Niagara Falls Planning Board for its recommendation pursuant to Chapter 1302.4.1 (B) (3), in furtherance of the Zoning Ordinance amendment process; and be it further

RESOLVED that a public hearing be held regarding the proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance in the Council Chambers of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, on a date and time set by resolution of this Council, provided that notice of said public hearing be published in the Niagara Gazette at least five (5) days’ preceding said public hearing.