STAFF REPORT - TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

May 26, 2022



SBL APPLICATION NAME & NUMBER 120 Lafayette Ave [2021-022] - Site Development 122.12-1-8 Plan for Rooftop Solar

MEETING DATE

June 13, 2022

PROPERTY ADDRESS/LOCATION 120 Lafayette Avenue, NWP

BRIEF SUMMARY OF REQUEST

249 panel 107kW rooftop mounted solar system.



PENDING ACTION: ■ Plan Review ☐ Town Board Referral ☐ Preliminary Discussion

EXISTING ZONING	EXISTING LAND USE	SURROUNDING ZONING & LAND USE	SITE IMPROVEMENTS	SIZE OF PROPERTY
IND-A	Unknown	Industrial	Rooftop Mounted Solar	0.47 acres

PROPERTY HISTORY

Sherman Pressure Casting Office and Warehouse

COMPATIBILITY with the COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Comprehensive Plan states the following with respect to the IND-A Zoning District:

Consider amendments to the IND-A district to incorporate standards for landscaping and sidewalks, to improve conditions along Virginia Road and Lafayette Avenue.

The proposed action is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. It is recommended that the Planning Board approve the requested site plan.
- 2. The project is compatible with the Comprehensive Plan.

Procedural Comments Staff Notes 1. Pursuant to Section 12-18(1) of the Town Code, all site development plans submitted to the The ARB opined that this application is Planning Board are required to be referred to the Architectural Review Board (ARB) for review not required to be reviewed by the ARB. and comment. 2. The application for special permit approval requires referral to the Westchester County The project was referred to Westchester Planning Board pursuant to § 239-m of New York State General Municipal Law (GML). County on May 25, 2021. This referral is required because the site is within 500 feet of the Bronx River Parkway. 3. The Proposed Action would be classified as an Unlisted Action pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). 4. A Public Hearing for the proposed site plan will need to be scheduled. 5. The site plan should be forwarded to the Chief of Police. Fire Inspector and the North The project was referred on May 25, White Plains Fire Chief so that they may make any pertinent recommendations to the 2021. Planning Board including, but not limited to, the designation of no-parking zones, emergency vehicle access or any other issued deemed important to providing emergency services. **General Comments** 1. The submitted site plan depicts the property being used as an office and warehouse. It is noted that the Planning Department does not have any site plan approval for this site on record. Documentation in the Building Department indicates that the site was formerly Sherman Pressure Casting. Prior to the Planning Board being able to approve the requested solar project, the Planning Board will also need to adopt and approve a site plan for the property. 2. The Applicant will need to seek a license agreement from the Town Board to utilize the right-The Applicant should indicate the status of-way for parking, of the license agreement. 3. The site plan depicts a total of 10 off-street parking spaces where 17 off-street parking spaces The Applicant obtained the required are required. However, 10 of those parking spaces are partially located in the Lafayette variance at the May 5, 2022 ZBA Avenue right-of-way. The Applicant is seeking a license agreement to utilize the right-of-way meetina. for parking, but the spaces can't be counted as meeting the off-street parking requirement. Therefore, the Applicant will need to obtain the following variances from the Zoning Board of Appeals: ☐ 17 off-street parking space variance from Section 355-57 of the Town Code ☐ A variance from Section 355-56.G of the Town Code to permit cars to back out into the Lafayette Ave right-of-way. 4. The Applicant shall provide a plan for the operation and maintenance of the solar installation to the satisfaction of the Building Department. The plan shall include measures for maintaining safe access to the installation, adequate security as well as general procedures for operational maintenance of the installation. 5. The Applicant will need to submit a project summary, electrical schematic, and site plan to the North White Plains Fire Chief. In addition, upon request, the Applicant shall cooperate with emergency service providers in developing an emergency response plan. All means of shutting down the solar installation shall be clearly marked in the plan and in the field. In addition, the Applicant shall identify a responsible person for public inquiry throughout the life of the installation.

6.	The Applicant shall submit a suitable legal agreement, in form satisfactory to the Town Attorney, assuring the Town that the applicant will deposit cash or file a surety bond or other security acceptable to the Town Board (such as a Letter of Credit) for the removal and restoration of the site should the solar collector cease to perform its originally intended function for more than 12 consecutive months. The amount of said bond or other security shall be determined by the Town Board.	
	In the event that the issuer of the bond or other security furnished to the Town hereunder becomes insolvent or, for any reason, disaffirms the validity of such security, the applicant shall notify the Town Board immediately and replace the invalid security with a new bond or other security acceptable to the Town Board within thirty (30 days thereafter. The existence of a valid bond, letter of credit or other security shall be a condition precedent to the validity of any permits issued or to be issued in connection with this approval.	