

First Reading

8-7-2023

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-017

**AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING A MORATORIUM ON FILING AND ACCEPTING ANY NEW APPLICATIONS FOR SOLAR FARMS UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2023**

WHEREAS, the Muncie Delaware County Metropolitan Plan Commission conducted a public hearing on February 17, 2022 with respect to amendments to the zoning ordinance concerning solar farms in agricultural zones; and

WHEREAS, the County Plan Commission conducted a duly authorized, notice and debated public hearing concerning the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment concerning the inclusion of solar farms in Agricultural zones; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners also received additional public input into the proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance with respect to solar farms; and

WHEREAS, the Muncie Delaware County Metropolitan Plan Commission has had subcommittee that has been meeting to discuss possible changes to the ordinance regarding solar farms and their operations since 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Muncie Delaware County Metropolitan Plan Commission had hoped to complete their work by August 21, 2023, but the unfortunate passing of the Plan Commission's Executive Director, Marta Moody, has delayed the completion of the subcommittee's work; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners believe that the moratorium on the filing and acceptance of any new applications for solar farms during this study period and to all allow the Plan Commission has had an opportunity to consider amendments and conduct a public hearing for public input on those amendments.

*NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF DELAWARE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:*

1. A moratorium that was imposed upon the County commencing on February 22, 2022 for the acceptance, review and filing of any application by any person, firm or entity seeking to place or install a solar farm on any property in Delaware County shall be extended.
2. Said Moratorium shall remain in place until Noon, December 31, 2023.

*DULY ADOPTED* by the Board of Commissioners of Delaware County at a regularly scheduled public meeting held on this, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

*DELAWARE COUNTY*

*BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS*

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Shannon Henry, Commissioner

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James King, Commissioner

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Sherry Riggin, Commissioner

*ATTEST:*

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Edward Carroll, Auditor  
Delaware County, Indiana