

# <u>AGENDA</u>

# CITY OF ROCHELLE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, May 05, 2025 at 6:00 PM

City of Rochelle Council Chambers—420 North 6th Street, Rochelle, IL 61068

- I. CALL TO ORDER:
- II. ROLL CALL:
- III. APPROVE/ACCEPT MINUTES:
  - 1. 04-07-2025 Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting Minutes
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTARY:
- V. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:
- VI. BUSINESS ITEMS:
  - 1. PZC-04-25 Petition of Elion Business Center LLC for a special use for a Childcare Center for the property located at 450 E. Coronado Drive. (Public Hearing and Action).
  - 2. PZC-05-25 Petition of Willis Senior Lofts for a variance of setback and vision clearance for a fence for the property located at 410 Willis Ave. (Public Hearing and Action).
  - <u>3.</u> PZC-07-25 Petition of Rochelle Solar, LLC for a special use for the construction and operation of a utility scale solar farm for parcel number 25-18-100-009 (Public Hearing and Action).
- VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS:
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Anyone interested in participating in public commentary remotely should contact Michelle Knight at mknight@rochelleil.us or call 815-562-6161 to make arrangements.



## **MINUTES** CITY OF ROCHELLE

### PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

Monday, April 07, 2025 at 6:00 PM

City of Rochelle Council Chambers—420 North 6th Street, Rochelle, IL 61068

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present were Commissioners Hickey, Colwill, Wolter, McKibben, Myers and Charnock. Absent: Swinton. Non-voting Commissioners present were: Bowerman. Absent: Barber and Tenggren. Also present were Michelle Knight, Michelle Pease, Adam Lanning and Mayor Bearrows.
- III. APPROVE/ACCEPT MINUTES: Colwill moved, seconded by McKibben, "I move the minutes of the March 3, 2025 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting as presented be approved." Motion carried by voice vote 6-0.
- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENTARY: None**
- V. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:** None

VI. BUSINESS ITEMS: PZC-2-25 City of Rochelle for a proposed special use for the construction of Well #13 in a B2 zoning district, located on parcel 25-17-100-010. Pease stated that a notice was published in the paper and property owners were notified. Motion made by Myers, seconded by Hickey, "I move the Planning and Zoning Commission open the Public Hearing regarding the proposed special use for the construction of Well #13 in a B2 Zoning District, located on parcel 25-17-100-010." Ayes: Colwill, Hickey, McKibben, Myers, Charnock and Wolter. Nayes: None. Motion carried 6-0. The petitioner is seeking a proposed special use permit to build public infrastructure (utilities) for Well #13 on parcel #25-17-100-010. This parcel is located directly east of 915 Technology Parkway. The new well will mitigate pressure issues on the northeast side of Rochelle and allow for development. The property is approximately 2.04 acres and is currently vacant land owned by the City of Rochelle. The subject property is zoned B-2 Highway Commercial. Per Division 7, Sec. 110-160 District Use Classification List, Utilities in a B-2 requires a special use. Adam Lanning, Superintendent of Water/Water Reclamation was present and gave a brief description of the proposed well house and the anticipated production of the proposed well. Motion made by McKibben, seconded by Myers, "I move the Planning and Zoning Commission close the Public Hearing." Ayes: Colwill, Hickey, McKibben, Myers, Charnock and Wolter. Nayes: None. Motion carried 6-0.

Findings: Special Use

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1. Is the proposed special use detrimental or dangerous to public health?
Yes: No: <u>6</u>
2. Will the proposed special use impair property value in the neighborhood?
Yes: No: <u>6</u>
3. Will the proposed special use impede the normal development of the surrounding properties?
Yes: No:6
4. Will the proposed special use:
(a) impair light and air to adjacent property;
(b) congest public streets;
(c) increase the risk of fire;
(d) substantially diminish property values within the vicinity; or
(e) endanger the public health?
Yes: No: <u>6</u>
Motion made by Myers, seconded by Colwill, "I move the Planning and Zoning Commission recommend to the
City Council that it Approve the proposed special use for the construction of Well #13 in a B2 zoning district,
located on parcel 25-17-100-010, based on the report of findings." Ayes: Colwill, Hickey, McKibben, Myers,
Charnock and Wolter. Nayes: None. Motion carried 6-0.
PZC-03-25 Petition of Ethan Gruben for a proposed rezone from I-2 to R-4 for the property located at 334
N. 14th Street, parcel number 24-23-476-002. Pease stated that a notice was published in the paper and property
owners were notified. Motion made by McKibben, seconded by Charnock, "I move the Planning and Zoning

Commission open the Public Hearing regarding the proposed rezone/map amendment from I-2 to R-4, Multi

Family Low Density Residential for the property located at 334 N. 14th Street." Ayes: Colwill, Hickey, McKibben, Myers, Charnock and Wolter. Nayes: None. Motion carried 6-0. 334 N. 14th Street, parcel number 24-23-476-002, is a single-family home which is currently zoned I-2, General Industry. The petitioner is requesting to rezone/amend the zoning map of the subject property from I-2 General Industry to R-4 Multi Family Low Density Residential. The reason for the request to rezone to an R4 is because the current and past use of the property is single family residential and in order to secure financial lending to purchase the property, it has to be zoned appropriately as residential. The property is surrounded by I-2 General Industry to the north, south and west and R-4 to the east. Petitioner Ethan Gruben was present to answer any questions. Motion made by Myers, seconded by Hickey, "I move the Planning and Zoning Commission close the Public Hearing." Ayes: Colwill, Hickey, McKibben, Myers, Charnock and Wolter. Nayes: None. Motion carried 6-0.

П	mickey, Mickidden, Myers, Charnock and	d Wolter. Nayes: None. Motion carried 6-0.
Fi	Findings:	
1.	1. Is the proposed zoning consistent with	h surrounding properties?
	Yes: <u>5</u> No:	_1
	Explanation: No because not all other	rs have been rezoned.
2.	2. Is the proposed zoning detrimental or	dangerous to public health?
	Yes: No:	<u>6</u>
3.	3. Will the proposed zoning impair prop	erty value in the neighborhood?
	Yes: No:	<u>6</u>
4.	4. Will the proposed zoning impede the	normal development of the surrounding properties?
	Yes: No:	<u>6</u>
5.	5. Will the proposed zoning:	
	(a) impair light and air to adjacent pr	roperty;
	(b) congest public streets;	
	(c) increase the risk of fire;	
	(d) substantially diminish property v	values within the vicinity; or
	(e) endanger the public health?	
	Yes: No:	<u>6</u>

Motion made by Myers, seconded by McKibben, "I move the Planning and Zoning Commission recommend to the City Council that it approve the proposed rezone/map amendment from I-2 to R-4, Multi Family Low Density Residential for the property located at 334 N. 14th Street, based on the report of findings." Ayes: Colwill, Hickey, McKibben, Myers, Charnock and Wolter. Nayes: None. Motion carried 6-0.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Myers, seconded by Hickey, "I move to adjourn the regularly scheduled meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission of April 7, 2025." Ayes: Colwill, Hickey, McKibben, Myers, Charnock and Wolter. Nayes: None. Motion carried 6-0. The Planning and Zoning Commission adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Michelle Knight Community Development Specialist

## CITY OF ROCHELLE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION REPORT OF FINDINGS

**Case No.: PZC-04-25** 

**Applicant:** Elion Business Center, LLC

Address: 450 Coronado Drive, Rochelle, Illinois 61068

#### **Narrative:**

The petitioner is seeking a special use permit for a childcare center. The subject property is zoned PUD, Planned Unit Development and is located at 450 E. Coronado Drive. This currently is a vacant building which was previously a medical facility and has been vacant for a few years.

#### Article VII – Planned Unit Developments

Sec. 110-251 – Objectives. The PUD, as a subdivision of land, is intended to encourage improved design in the development of land by providing relief from traditional zoning requirements which may cause undue hardship or complication for desirable but unconventional development, and to establish standards and procedures for the issuance of a special use permit (section 110-31, special uses) for a PUD in order to achieve the following objectives:

- 1. To stimulate creative approaches to residential, commercial and industrial development of land.
- 2. To provide for more efficient use of land.
- 3. To preserve or enhance natural features and provide open space areas.

Sec. 110-252. - Modification of district regulations.

Sec. 110-253. - General standards and criteria for PUDs.

Sec. 110-254. - Permitted uses and density.

#### Staff recommends

Staff recommends consideration of the special use for a childcare center located at 450 E. Coronado Drive.

## **Findings:**

s the proposed use allowe	l in the proposed zoning district, but only with a special use	e permit?
Yes:	No:	
Explanation:		

If the answer to any of the following questions is "Yes", then the Commission should recommend that the City Council deny the petition for a special use permit. If the answer to all of the following questions is "No", then the Commission may recommend that the City Council approve or deny the petition for a special use permit. Each question should state an answer and give an explanation. If the answers to all of the questions is "No", but the Commission votes to recommend denying the petition, the Commission should provide an explanation as to why.

1.	Is the proposed use detrimental or dangerous to public health?  Yes: No:
	Explanation:
2.	Will the proposed use impair property value in the neighborhood?  Yes: No:
	Explanation:
3.	Will the proposed use impede the normal development of the surrounding properties?  Yes: No:
	Explanation:
4.	Will the proposed use:  (a) impair light and air to adjacent property;  (b) congest public streets;  (c) increase the risk of fire;  (d) substantially diminish property values within the vicinity; or  (e) endanger the public health?  Yes: No:
	Explanation:
Re	ecommendation:
	ased on the findings above, the Planning and Zoning Commission hereby recommends to the ochelle City Council that:
	That the Petitioner be granted a special use permit for the proposed use at the Subject Property, without conditions other than the other applicable requirements of the Rochelle Municipal Code.
	That the Petitioner be granted a special use permit for the proposed use at the Subject Property, with the following conditions attached thereto, in addition to the requirements of the Rochelle Municipal Code:
	That the Petitioner be denied a special use permit for the proposed use at the Subject Property. If this is based on any reason other than a "Yes"

	follows:	oove, the ram	and Zonni	g Commission explains as	,
	ionows.				
ssed by the	e Planning o	& Zoning Con	nmission:		
ssed by the	Planning of	& Zoning Con	nmission:		
ssed by the		& Zoning Con	nmission:		
ssed by the	e Planning o	C			
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## CITY OF ROCHELLE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION REPORT OF FINDINGS

**Case No.: PZC-05-25** 

**Applicant: Willis Senior Lofts Limited Partnership** 

Address: 410 Willis Avenue, Rochelle, IL

#### **Narrative:**

The petitioner is seeking a variance of setbacks to construct a proposed four-foot black vinyl coated chain link fence, including three 6' wide walk gates beyond the building line at 410 Willis Avenue. The property is zoned R5, Multi Family High Density Residential. The petitioner is requesting to extend the fence beyond the building line from the northeast corner of the building, east up to the public sidewalk, south parallel along the public sidewalk, then west along the entrance drive, then back north to the rear southeast corner of the building.

Sec. 110-545- Residential, Security and Farm Fences (1). On corner lots, no fence or wall will extend beyond the street setback requirements, or building line, whichever is greater.

The petitioner's request for a variance from Sec. 110-545 is to "ensure the safety of their residents and the general public" by fencing around the stormwater detention area to prevent someone from accidentally entering. This is a senior apartment building that will run 24/7 and will have two employees. A site manager and a building technician. The building will have 60 units (45 one-bedroom units and 15 two-bedroom units.)

Sec. 110-58 Vision Clearance Triangle - In each quadrant of every intersection of any arterial street shown on the city's comprehensive plan or master plan and any other streets not located in the B-1 central business district with a private or public driveway or accessway or alley providing egress for parking area of 1,000 square feet or more, there shall be designed a vision clearance triangle, bounded by the inner street lines (right-of-way), or the street line and driveway lines, as the case may be, and a line connecting them 25 feet from their intersection. Within this triangle no object shall be allowed above the height of 2.5 feet above the streets and/or driveways if it obstructs the view across the triangle. This provision shall not apply to tree trunks, posts or wire fences.

Although the petitioner is requesting a four-foot fence within the vision clearance triangle, the material of the proposed fence is chain link, which could be considered a wire fence and would therefore be excluded from the provisions of section 110-58. The chain link fence should not present a hazard or obstruction of vision.

#### **Staff Presents:**

Staff is presenting the request for a variance of setbacks and vision triangle for a fence.

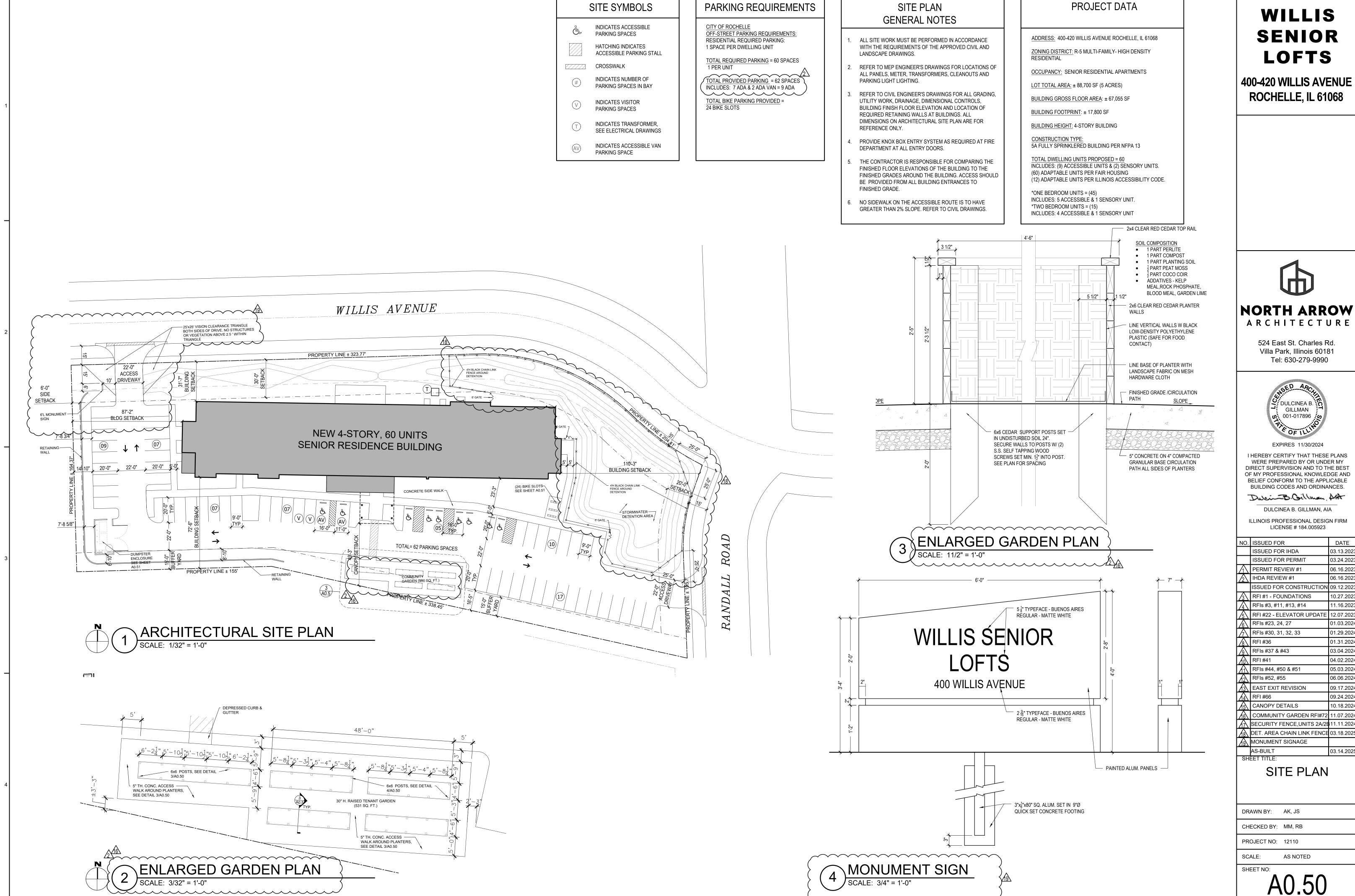
## **Findings:**

I.	Is the proposed variance allowed in the proposed zoning district?  Yes: No:
	Explanation:
rec of ap <sub>l</sub> giv	the answer to any of the following questions is "Yes", then the Commission should commend that the City Council deny the petition for a special use permit. If the answer to all the following questions is "No", then the Commission may recommend that the City Council prove or deny the petition for a special use permit. Each question should state an answer and re an explanation. If the answers to all of the questions is "No", but the Commission votes to commend denying the petition, the Commission should provide an explanation as to why.
2.	Is the proposed variance detrimental or dangerous to public health?  Yes: No:
	Explanation:
3.	Will the proposed variance impair property value in the neighborhood?  Yes: No:
	Explanation:
4.	Will the proposed variance impede the normal development of the surrounding properties?  Yes: No:
	Explanation:
5.	Will the proposed variance:  (a) impair light and air to adjacent property;  (b) congest public streets;  (c) increase the risk of fire;  (d) substantially diminish property values within the vicinity; or  (e) endanger the public health?  Yes: No:
	Explanation:

## **Recommendation:**

Based on the findings above, the Planning and Zoning Commission hereby recommends to the Rochelle City Council that:

Passed by th	re Planning & Zoning Commission:  Vote:
	That the Petitioner be denied a variance for the proposed use at the Subject Property. If this is based on any reason other than a "Yes" response above, the Planning and Zoning Commission explains as follows:
	That the Petitioner be granted a variance for the proposed use at the Subject Property, with the following conditions attached thereto, in addition to the requirements of the Rochelle Municipal Code:
	the Subject Property, without conditions other than the other applicable requirements of the Rochelle Municipal Code.



Ο.	ISSUED FOR	DATE
	ISSUED FOR IHDA	03.13.2023
	ISSUED FOR PERMIT	03.24.2023
	PERMIT REVIEW #1	06.16.2023
$\sum$	IHDA REVIEW #1	06.16.2023
	ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION	09.12.2023
	RFI #1 - FOUNDATIONS	10.27.2023
1	RFIs #3, #11, #13, #14	11.16.2023
$\sqrt{2}$	RFI #22 - ELEVATOR UPDATE	12.07.2023
$/\epsilon$	RFIs #23, 24, 27	01.03.2024
	RFIs #30, 31, 32, 33	01.29.2024
3	RFI #36	01.31.2024
$\sqrt{c}$	RFIs #37 & #43	03.04.2024
7	RFI #41	04.02.2024
	RFIs #44, #50 & #51	05.03.2024
$\overline{\lambda}$	RFIs #52, #55	06.06.2024
3	EAST EXIT REVISION	09.17.2024
4	RFI #66	09.24.2024
5\	CANOPY DETAILS	10.18.2024
$\delta$	COMMUNITY GARDEN RFI#72	11.07.2024
$\lambda$	SECURITY FENCE,UNITS 2A/26	11.11.2024
8	DET. AREA CHAIN LINK FENCE	03.18.2025
9	MONUMENT SIGNAGE	
	AS-BUILT	03.14.2025
3H	EET TITLE:	







## CITY OF ROCHELLE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION REPORT OF FINDINGS

Case No.: 07-25

**Applicant:** Rochelle Solar LLC

Address: Corner of Twombly Road and North Caron Road

#### Narrative:

Rochelle Solar entered into an annexation agreement for 87.89 +/- acres with the City of Rochelle at the southwest corner of Twombly Road and North Caron proposed extension road (part of parcel 25-18-100-009) to develop a solar farm. The property was zoned RD, Rural Development at the time of annexation, which requires a special use for a Solar Farm. A special use was granted at that time as follows:

Conditions of the special use for a solar farm would include the following:

- 1) Dedication of City easements (15' width minimum), as approved by the City Engineer, for a shared use path along the westerly boundary of the subdivision.
- 2) Dedication of right-of-way (ROW), as approved by the City Engineer, along the southerly and northerly boundary lines of the subdivision for existing and/or future roadway or utility improvements or extensions along Twombly Rd and future Flagg Road east of Caron Road.
- 3) Posting of the necessary surety as per the City Engineers estimate of cost for said roadway and/or utility improvements (ie, public improvements) and as per section 86-51 through 86-56 of the Rochelle Municipal Code in the amount of \$1,125,000. If the developer/petitioner fails to complete the improvements the City may draw upon the surety and use said funds for the public improvements within the ROW.
- 4) Dedication of a City/drainage easement for the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) also known as the floodplain/floodway as depicted on the FEMA FIRM maps #17141C0483E City of Rochelle and Ogle County effective dated 8/17/2016.
- 5) The internal light duty maintenance driveways may be chip sealed due to the limited Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of 10 vehicles per day (VPD) within the solar field perimeter. However, any and all access driveways from Twombly Road or other City owned ROW's shall meet the requirements for driveway approaches from a street and hard surfacing of driveway as measured 130 feet from the applicable ROW line.
- 6) All final site plans and applications for permits shall be reviewed and approved by City staff as the development proceeds forward in accordance with the Rochelle Municipal Code except as may be varied from herein.
- 7) All landscaping shall be maintained by the petitioner/developer in accordance with all Rochelle Municipal Codes and as required by City staff. Annual inspections shall be performed by City staff to determine if damaged, dead or diseased plantings need to be removed and replaced to ensure the landscape buffer remains as shown on the plan.
- 8) All stormwater impact fees, in accordance with Chapter 22 of the Rochelle Municipal Code, shall be paid at \$1300/Acre of the subdivision prior to the issuance of a special use permit or recording of the Final Plat of the Rochelle Northeast Subdivision.

Rochelle Solar later petitioned to add the terms of 40 years to their special use for a solar farm. By adding these terms, the language of their special use was consistent with the language in their annexation agreement.

More than three years have passed since the original special use was granted and the petitioner has not moved forward with the project; therefore, they are now required to apply for a new special use. The petitioner, Rochelle Solar, is requesting a special use with the same conditions as previously granted.

#### **Staff Recommends:**

Staff is presenting a special use for 40 years with conditions for Rochelle Solar.

Findi	ngs:
	he proposed use allowed in the proposed zoning district, but only with a special use
permit Ye	es: No:
Ex	planation:
recom of the approv give a	answer to any of the following questions is "Yes", then the Commission should mend that the City Council deny the petition for a special use permit. If the answer to all following questions is "No", then the Commission may recommend that the City Council we or deny the petition for a special use permit. Each question should state an answer and an explanation. If the answers to all of the questions is "No", but the Commission votes to mend denying the petition, the Commission should provide an explanation as to why.
	he proposed use detrimental or dangerous to public health? es: No:
Ex	planation:
	Il the proposed use impair property value in the neighborhood? es: No:
Ex	planation:
	Il the proposed use impede the normal development of the surrounding properties? es: No:
Ex	planation:
(a) (b)	Il the proposed use: impair light and air to adjacent property; congest public streets; increase the risk of fire;

(d) substantially diminish property values within the vicinity; or

(e) endange	er the public health?
Yes:	No:
Explanation	1:
Recommendat	ion:
Based on the fin Rochelle City C	ndings above, the Planning and Zoning Commission hereby recommends to the Council that:
1	That the Petitioner be granted a special use permit for the proposed use at the Subject Property, without conditions other than the other applicable requirements of the Rochelle Municipal Code.
1	That the Petitioner be granted a special use permit for the proposed use at the Subject Property, with the following conditions attached thereto, in addition to the requirements of the Rochelle Municipal Code:
for a sha 2. Dedic	cation of City easements (15' width minimum), as approved by the City Engineer, ared use path along the easterly boundary of the subdivision. cation of right-of-way (ROW), as approved by the City Engineer, along the y and northerly boundary lines of the subdivision for existing and/or future
roadway	y or utility improvements or extensions along Twombly Rd and future Flagg Road Caron Road.
roadway	ng of the necessary surety as per the City Engineers estimate of cost for said y and/or utility improvements (ie, public improvements) and as per section 86-51 86-56 of the Rochelle Municipal Code in the amount of \$1,100,000. If the
develop surety a	er/petitioner fails to complete the improvements the City may draw upon the nd use said funds for the public improvements within the ROW.
also kno	cation of a City/drainage easement for the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) own as the floodplain/floodway as depicted on the FEMA FIRM maps C0483E City of Rochelle and Ogle County effective dated 8/17/2016.
5. The i	nternal light duty maintenance driveways may be chip sealed due to the limited e Daily Traffic (ADT) of 10 vehicles per day (VPD) within the solar field

Code except as may be varied from herein.

7. All landscaping shall be maintained by the petitioner/developer in accordance with all Rochelle Municipal Codes and as required by City staff. Annual inspections shall be performed by City staff to determine if damaged, dead or diseased plantings need to be removed and replaced to ensure the landscape buffer remains as shown on the plan.

6. All final site plans and applications for permits shall be reviewed and approved by City staff as the development proceeds forward in accordance with the Rochelle Municipal

perimeter. However, any and all access driveways from Twombly Road or other City owned ROW's shall meet the requirements for driveway approaches from a street and

hard surfacing of driveway as measured 130 feet from the applicable ROW line.

8) All stormwater impact fees, in accordance with Chapter 22 of the Rochelle Municipal Code, shall be paid at \$1300/Acre of the subdivision prior to the issuance of a special use permit or recording of the Final Plat of the Rochelle Northeast Subdivision.
9) 40 year term for the use of a solar farm.

	the Subjec	t Property. If t	his is based on	se permit for the proposed any reason other than a "Y g Commission explains as	l'es"
Passad by t	ho Planning	& Zaning Car	nmission		
rassed by t	Vote:	& Zoning Con	mmssion:		
		Ayes:	Nays:	Abstain:	
			CHAIRM	[AN	

