

**KEENE TOWNSHIP**

**ORDINANCE NO. 10-11-22**

**AN ORDINANCE TO IMPOSE A MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS, LICENSES, OR APPROVALS FOR, OR FOR ANY CONSTRUCTION OF SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES.**

THE TOWNSHIP OF KEENE ORDAINS:

**Section 1: Definitions.**

- A. “Commercial Solar Energy Facilities” means a utility-scale commercial facility that converts sunlight into electricity, whether by photovoltaics (PV) or various experimental solar technologies, for the primary purpose of wholesale or retail sales of generated electricity.

**Section 2. Purpose and Findings.** The purpose of this moratorium is to provide sufficient time for the Township to fully explore, analyze, research, and make informed decisions regarding Commercial Solar Energy Facilities. In support of this Ordinance, the Township Board has determined the following:

- A. The Township Board has become aware that developers may be interested in constructing Commercial Solar Energy Facilities in the Township.
- B. The integration of these Commercial Solar Energy Facilities within the Township emphasizes the need for suitable regulations and controls.
- C. The Township Board is authorized to establish reasonable requirements and regulations to govern and control Commercial Solar Energy Facilities within the Township to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the Township residents and their property.
- D. Imposing a moratorium, on a limited temporary basis, is reasonable and necessary to allow the Township time to fully explore, analyze, research and develop any proposed regulations regarding the integration of Commercial Solar Energy Facilities within the Township.
- E. A moratorium should be imposed upon the issuance of any and all permits, licenses, and approvals for any property in the Township for the establishment and use of Commercial Solar Energy Facilities for 6 months.

**Section 3: Moratorium.** A moratorium is hereby imposed upon the issuance of any and all permits, licenses, or approvals for any property in the Township for the establishment and use of Commercial Solar Energy Facilities, so long as this Ordinance is in effect.

**Section 4: Term of Moratorium; Renewal.** The moratorium imposed by this Ordinance remains in effect 6 months following the effective date of this Ordinance, unless repealed sooner.

**Section 5: Validity and Severability.** Should any portion of this Ordinance be found invalid for any reason, such holding will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

**Section 6: Repealer Clause.** Any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

**Section 7: Effective Date.** This Ordinance is effective immediately following publication.

YEAS: Board Member(s) 4

NAYS: Board Member(s) 0

ABSTAIN: Board Member(s) 0

ABSENT: Board Member(s) 1

### **CERTIFICATION**

As the Township Supervisor and Township Clerk of Keene Township, Ionia County, Michigan, I certify this is a true and complete copy of an ordinance adopted by the Keene Township Board at a regular meeting held on October 11, 2022.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Simpson, Township Supervisor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tami Hardy, Township Clerk

Introduced: October 11, 2022

Adopted: October 11, 2022

Published: October 15, 2022

Effective: October 15, 2022

Note – original document is signed