TOWN OF DELHI
Public Hearing
June 8, 2026
6:31PM

TOWN OF DELHI
LOCAL LAW #001 OF 2026

A LOCAL LAW AFFECTING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM WITHIN THE TOWN OF DELHI ON BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

Those present:

Councilmembers: Josh Morgan, Daniel Gashler, Simon Purdy and Christina Viafore.
Highway Superintendent: Daren Evans
Town Justice: Mat Burkert
Town residents: Bill Cairns, Anne Smith, Joan Townsend, Kelly Smith, Phoung Mokay

Supervisor Boukai called the public hearing to order at 6:31pm. She and the Town Council introduced themselves to the residents whom attended. She then introduced the proposed legislation of the Local Law No. 001 of 2026 entitled “A Local Law Affecting a Temporary Moratorium within the Town of Delhi on Battery Energy Storage Systems.”

Boukai then asked if anyone wanted to come forward with questions. Anne Smith came forward stating she had just got in from being out of town, as such she was not prepared but she doesn't understand why there's discussion about a moratorium, because battery storage is all intended to get us to move forward to renewables, it gets us all off the oil and gas dependence, and seems kind of like a great call to be able to have it, it would be paid for by the people who want to put it in, and it wouldn't harm the environment, because it's just battery storage. So, she really kind of came to get clarity, but she also supports us having battery storage in Delhi.

Boukai said just a reminder to everyone, this isn't necessarily a back and forth, it's for everyone to say their piece, and then she will make a statement at the end, though, just to kind of clarify, because she had gotten calls about confusion, there's a little confusion but at the end, she'd address that.

Bill Cairns introduced himself and said he just want to say, he thinks the moratorium is 100% the right move. It's nice to think that it's harmless and helpful but stating “talk to folks up in Warwick. They've had a lot of trouble with fires in the battery storage facilities.” These fires don't go out easily. They have to monitor air quality also. He spoke as a first responder, saying they're faced with enough challenges already. Seems like something else they don't need added to their plate.

Phuong Mokay came forward stating she was all for a moratorium. Adding she just found out about the vote or the meeting today, so she didn't really have much time to look into it, but her biggest concerns are what Bill Carins has been saying is about our infrastructure and the ability with the battery and the fire protection, and she's curious to see, as she's trying to understand the law itself, like how does it affect existing planning board approvals for existing solar farms. She didn't remember if she recalled there was no battery storage, but she thinks there could be provisions for it. Asking if so was that grandfathered in? Has that been approved or is this only for items that are under construction, already under construction.

Joan Townsend came forward and stated she objects to any battery storage and solar any place in Delaware County and New York, especially Delhi. She lives here, and she's worried about our environment.

Boukai thanked the audience stating there being no further public comment, the public hearing was closed at 6:36pm.