

Government

Solar Carport to be Constructed at Yorktown's Granite Knolls Park

By BRIAN MARSCHHAUSER November 29, 2<u>020 at 9:00 AM</u>



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YORKTOWN, N.Y. – A solar carport and electric vehicle charging stations would be built at the town's Granite Knolls Sports Complex under terms of a 25-year lease agreement being negotiated by the town with HESP Solar.

The Montvale, New Jersey-based company was awarded the bid at the Town Board's meeting on Thursday, Nov. 5. Several other solar providers also submitted bids.

The proposed solar array would be installed above a carport on the sports complex's parking lot, which the town is looking to pave. Details of the lease agreement, the terms of which are still being negotiated, have not been released. However, according to the resolution, HESP would be required to provide the town with an up-front lump-sum payment so the town can pave the parking lot next summer before construction of the carport begins.

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"We've negotiated, in good faith, as much as we can to this point in time, and HESP is now requesting t awarded in order for us to continue our negotiations," said Town Supervisor Matt Slater.

Once an agreement is reached, it will be brought to the full Town Board for final approval, Slater said.

according to the town, is expected to generate an estimated \$100,000 a year in revenue for the town and would provide Con Edison customers in town with an opportunity to get a 10 percent discount on their electric bills.

"This is going to be a milestone project, I believe, for the state," Slater said. "But I also think it really shows this Town Board's focus on proper management. I think it shows our focus on trying to come up with creative ways to raise revenue without raising taxes. I think it also shows our commitment to helping the environment."

The agreement would also include a public marketing and education campaign, as well as outreach to local schools.

"This is, I think, a great project," said Councilwoman Alice Roker. "I look forward to spring when they'll begin work, and I greatly appreciate the fact that they're going to do an educational program, not just for adults, but in the schools, as well."