

TOWN OF COLLINS

LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF THE YEAR 2016

A local law imposing a temporary moratorium on the issuance of applications and the granting of permits, licenses or approvals for the Siting of Commercial Solar Power Projects in the Town of Collins in order to allow for the adoption of appropriate regulations pertaining to such land uses,

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Collins (“Town”) as follows:

WHEREAS, in recent weeks, Collins has received a number of inquiries about siting and locating commercial solar panel installations on land within the Town of Collins, and

WHEREAS, current local laws, ordinances and regulations do not adequately address many of the issues and concerns which must be considered to fairly address the impacts of such uses upon the Town, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is necessary to protect the public interest and welfare by imposing a temporary moratorium on new siting, location and establishment of Commercial Solar Power Projects while the Town undertakes a comprehensive review of concerns and issues raised by these uses, and

WHEREAS, such moratorium is intend to allow the Town sufficient and necessary time to address such concerns and issues and enact new laws, ordinances or regulations, and/or appropriate amendments to existing laws, ordinances or regulations to properly address community impacts, concerns or issues in a manner which is meaningful and consistent with the Town’s comprehensive plan,

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Board of the Town of Collins hereby declares that no new applications shall be issued and no permits or approvals shall be granted by any officer, department, board or agency of the Town of Collins with respect to the siting, location or establishment of Commercial Solar Power Projects within the Town of Collins for a period of six (6) months from the elective date of this local law, unless earlier terminated by other local law, duly adopted.

As used in this law, the term “Commercial Solar Panel Project(s)” shall mean and include, but not be limited to, an array or collection of photovoltaic panels or collectors that convert sunlight to electrical energy and which, together with appurtenant facilities, covers an aggregate area of land greater than 100 square feet. Residential, business and industrial properties with rooftop solar panel installations which generate electricity solely servicing the property where the rooftop installations are located are exempt from this moratorium as are all municipal and school installations and properties.

This local law is intended to supersede all applicable provisions of the Town of Collins Code, to the extent required to give effect to the provisions hereof for the effective period hereof.