EDGECOMB ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES, JULY 15, 2021

Present: Chair Rebecca Graham, Barry Hathorne, David Nutt and Skip White

Absent: Jack French and alternate Barb Gibson

1. Call to Order

Rebecca Graham called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

There was no motion

3. Solar Ordinance

Section 8 of the ordinance was discussed, specifically where solar farms would be allowed, and the effect on wildlife habitat and loss of potential or actual farmland. A survey of town citizens was suggested but it was felt that the average citizen was not sufficiently knowledgeable about the benefits or disadvantages of solar installations. David Nutt moved to allow solar farms in all districts. Vote 4-0-0. If the committee feels any changes are necessary before the May annual meeting, the ordinance can be reviewed any time prior to that date. It will be necessary to change the use chart to add solar installations.

Rebecca Graham said she would favor having a third-party review for the impact on wildlife habitat. It was suggested that an addition to section 8, Siting and Impact, indicate that a third-party habitat impact review would be required. Rebecca Graham moved to add: All applicants shall submit a third-party wildlife habitat impact review by an environmental habitat impact specialist. Vote 4-0-0.

4. Other Business

The committee briefly discussed accessory dwelling units. The State will require that one unit be owner-occupied. Hotel tax or occupancy tax will not be required by the state.

5. Adjournment

David Nutt moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. Vote 4-0-0.