



Economic Development Commission

Minutes

Wednesday, March 10, 2021. 6:30pm

Note: This meeting was held virtually.

I. Call to order

Chairman Rick Maloney called the meeting to order at 6:32pm. He informed the Commission that the Board of Selectmen had recently appointed Cheryl Mitchell to the Commission.

Members Present:

Rick Maloney
Samantha Hills
Bill Rankin.
G. Matt Clark
Cheryl Mitchell

Also Present:

Michael D'Amato, Town Planner
John Guskowski, Economic Development Consultant

II. Approval of Minutes

Tabled

III. Reports

None

IV. Old Business

a. South Willington

i. Village Regulation Updates

Chairman Maloney outlined for the Commission the current status of the Zoning Regulation modifications that the Commission has been working on in preparation for submission to the PZC for consideration. He shared correspondence that had been received by Tom Bucino regarding the sidewalk project and the sidewalks in proximity to his property. He reviewed the details of the history of the South Willington village area and how the current sidewalk project being pursued by the Town relates to and supports the revisions to the Zoning Regulations. The Commission reviewed and discussed the most recent modifications to the Regulation proposal to include additional language regarding the design of buildings, so they are in keeping with village character. There was general consensus to have a public information session about the proposed changes at the April EDC meeting.

Note: Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting

Chairman Maloney made a motion to approve the language as written for submission to the PZC for consideration. Second by Samantha Hills. All in Favor.

ii. Sidewalk Project

The Commission discussed and reviewed the LOTCIP Grant sidewalk project along River Road and proposed between the Hall Memorial School and Village St. The discussed the current extent and limits of the project and what options exist for completing the full extent of the village area in the future. There was additional discussion about the need for these improvements and that additional traffic calming measures should be considered as the vehicles speeds in the village area are too high.

Chairman Maloney made a motion, second by Matt Clark to request that staff review and produce concept plans and cost estimates for phase 2 of this project. All in favor.

b. Rail Project Update

Bill Rankin provided an update as to the status of the project. The next step is for Town staff, an EDC member and the property owner to walk the property with a traffic engineer to discuss the feasibility of access to the site. The goal is hold that property visit in April. The Commission also asked staff to reach out to the owners of 11 Phelps Way to see if they would be interested in any overall coordination with the project related to access from Rt 74.

V. New Business

EDC Website

The Commission had a brief discussion about the website and revisions that they plan to make, including an update to the business directory.

VI. Adjournment

Chairman Maloney adjourned the meeting at 7:39 pm

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