

Meeting Notes

Loudon Economic Development Committee Meeting

Monday, September 24, 2018

Attendees: EDC Members: Tom Blanchette (Chair), Rodney Phillips (Vice-Chair), Stan Prescott, Stephen Caine, and Jeff Miller. Central NH Regional Planning Commission: Mike Tardiff. Others: Fire Department Deputy Chief William Lake.

The September meeting of the Loudon Economic Development Committee began at 5:04pm.

The meeting opened with a review of the August 27 EDC meeting notes. Stephen Caine asked why the minutes referred to inviting a representative of the Fire Department to the September meeting. Tom Blanchette noted that the EDC had discussed methods to clarify the development review process and to begin preparing a simple fact sheet. At the August meeting the EDC had then discussed asking a member of the Fire Department to attend to begin discussing the topic. Upon a motion by Jeff Miller and a second by Stephen Caine, the motion to accept the August 27 EDC meeting notes was approved unanimously.

Mike Tardiff then quickly reviewed the four proposed Economic Revitalization Zone (ERZ) applications. The ERZs are: (1) Shaker Brook Park, (2) International Drive, (3) Village/NH 129 and (4) Staniels Road/Veterans Drive. The draft applications have been reviewed by NH Division of Economic Development staff, and the applications are scheduled to be considered by the Board of Selectmen at their September 25 meeting. Tom Blanchette then discussed the need to begin outlining a potential EDC budget for mailings, ERZ signs and other expenses in preparation for Town Meeting 2019. Stan Prescott reviewed the timeline for budget submissions. The ERZ discussion ended with a discussion of next steps - Upon approval of the ERZ application the EDC will hold a workshop for ERZ property owners so anyone who wishes to apply for the tax credit by the February 10 deadline will have time to prepare the application.

The EDC then discussed the need to begin work on a community education campaign for Town Meeting 2019 related to the Loudon Village NH RSA 79-E Community Reinvestment Tax Relief Incentive proposal that was defeated last year. Ideas discussed included a display at the November polls, a workshop, and a series of Loudon Ledger articles. Articles that outline the economic development tools that are available (including ERZs and the 79-E Tax Relief Incentive) and how the Barn Restoration Incentive (79-D) has been successful in Loudon were proposed. The Barn Restoration credit will be discussed at the October EDC meeting. It was noted that this information should all be on the EDC webpage as well.

Tom Blanchette then opened the discussion related to the development proposal review process and introduced Deputy Chief Lake. Deputy Chief Lake outlined the process that the Fire Department follows when involved in the development review process. When asked about common questions asked by applicants, he noted that they often involved the availability of water and the need for sprinklers. Tom Blanchette discussed the need to develop a more streamlined development review process and opportunity to prepare a review process fact sheet, and he asked Deputy Chief Lake to prepare a list of commonly asked questions. The EDC will also ask the ZBA and Planning Board to

prepare a similar list. The EDC then discussed options for coordination related to the development review process. Mike Tardiff noted that the Technical Review Committee process often works well, and offered the Town of Allenstown as an example. He offered to bring materials related to Allenstown's TRC process to the next EDC meeting.

Under other business, Tom Blanchette noted that Chris Wellington had resigned from the EDC. The EDC members will reach out to several residents to see if they are interested in serving on the EDC.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 22 beginning at 5pm.

Upon a motion by Rodney Phillips and a second by Stan Prescott, the EDC voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Mike Tardiff