

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Minutes – July 16, 2019

Members: Tom Boucher, Sam Chase, Donald Van Dyne, Laura Smith, Mike Kowalyk, John Wellman, Peter McAllister

In Attendance: Paul Cohen, Virginia Crocker Timmins

1. Public Input – Paul Cohen, Town Manager, spoke about his perspective and thoughts regarding RT. 40. These included the following:
 - Consideration of the RT. 40 corridor warrants a holistic town wide view based upon multiple variables such as economic development opportunity, desire to increase CIP, recognition as the last remaining highway interchange, future of UMW, pending opening of asphalt plant ...these factors should all be part of the “calculus”;
 - Any major re-zoning should consider the “big picture” and be strategic including fiscal and community needs and strategies;
 - Why the rush for fall TM.....rather do it “right than rushed” and
 - Should be part of the Master Planning process.
2. RT. 40 – Van Dyne stated that RT. 40 committee presented final report to the PB on June 26th and was invited back to answer questions on July 10th. At the July 10th meeting the Planning Board scheduled a joint meeting for July 24th with the RT. 40 committee and the EDC. The purpose of this discussion is for the EDC to review the final proposed zoning and discuss its position for this upcoming meeting.

Lengthy discussion took place among the EDC members and Virginia Timmins, a member of the RT. 40 committee. The EDC had general agreement with the Town Manager’s comments. The EDC also had general agreement that this issue warranted further consideration from a town wide perspective and that an extension of 6 months and no later than spring 2020 Town Meeting seemed appropriate. The EDC stated that they needed to craft a letter for the July 24th meeting to present. A special meeting was scheduled for Tuesday July 23, 2019 to prepare for this meeting. Van Dyne would draft a letter.

3. Business Development Director Report – tabled
4. Community Development Director Report – tabled
5. Minutes- tabled

Adjourned at 10:15 pm

Next Meeting- July 23, 2019