

**Economic Development Committee**

**November 16, 2015 Minutes**

**Town Hall: 7 p.m.**

**In Attendance**

Helene Demmer - Chair

Eric Neyland - Vice Chair

Erica Uriarte - Town Planner

Mark Ayotte

Dave Petit

Mike Murphy

*Helene Demmer*  
*1/4/15*

**1. Approved Minutes from October 2015**

M. Murphy motioned to approve minutes. 2<sup>nd</sup> by E. Neyland. All in favor 5/0/0.

**2. "Welcome to Bolton Sign" Status - met with Harold Brown**

H. Demmer met with Harold Brown, DPW, to discuss installation of the signs. H. Brown is concerned with the design of the signs and recommended the signs be engineered to ensure the signs can withstand wind loads and are designed with an appropriate foundation. H. Demmer and H. Brown met at the two sites to determine the approximate location of the signs. The sign at the intersection of Main Street and Sugar Road will need to be installed further back than anticipated from the existing stone wall to prevent snow from being piled onto the sign during the winter. H. Demmer and H. Brown determined that the sign will need to clear approximately five feet to be above the stone wall and adjust for changes in grade.

E. Uriarte received a quote from Kane Engineering for \$1,850. E. Uriarte stated that the proposal did not include conducting an on-site soil evaluation (worst case soils would be used). D. Pettit indicated that bedrock should be accounted for in the engineering design if depth to ledge is unknown. E. Uriarte will contact Kane Engineering to determine if quote included design for encountering bedrock.

E. Uriarte will meet with Don Lowe, Town Administrator, to determine funds to pay for engineering. H. Demmer offered to pay \$500 towards engineering, however, the Committee would prefer for the Town and participating businesses to cover extra costs associated with the design and installation. E. Uriarte will also look into the cost of equipment rental since DPW does not have the appropriate equipment to install the signs. The Committee may need to contact the participating businesses to ask for additional funding. E. Uriarte also noted that requesting funds at town meeting might also be an option, although would push installation to July 2016. H.

Demmer paid for the sign and is waiting to be reimbursed by the Town once installation costs are determined.

### **3. Sewer District Discussion - Board of Health meeting and Kate Hogan**

E. Neyland and H. Demmer met with D. Lowe to discuss the possibility of a sewer district study. They discussed that Harvard recently implemented a sewer district. D. Lowe was in contact with their Town Administrator regarding their process. D. Lowe gave E. Neyland and H. Demmer approval to move forward and recommended they meet with both the Board of Health and Board of Selectmen. The EDC will be meeting with the Board of Health on 11/23/15 at 6:30 pm to discuss the septic system issue and possible solutions (sewer district being one of them). E. Uriarte will send the agenda to the Committee.

H. Demmer spoke with Chris Slade from Board of Health and indicated that there might be short term approaches and a long term approaches to alleviate the septic issues on Main Street. Possible short term solution might be for infrastructure laid as part of the Town Common project to assist with the Cracker Barrel and 711-713 Main Street properties.

M. Murphy indicated that the sewer district seemed to be better solution that would assist many more properties. He indicated that it's not just the properties with failing septic systems, but properties that are currently grandfathered that might need to upgrade to meet Title V (i.e., when home is burned in a fire).

Current wastewater treatment facility is designed for 40,000 gpd and is currently working at 10,000 gpd. The elementary schools, library and public safety center connect to the system. M. Ayotte noted that when the system was approved back in 2006, a sewer district was decided against because the schools were under an enforcement order by DEP and there was a rush to have the order lifted. In terms of the debt service, it may be beneficial to look at a sewer district again. E. Uriarte and D. Pettit will review any existing design reports of the system prior to the Board of Health meeting.

EDC discussed reaching out to Kate Hogan for state assistance. Possibly connecting with her office after meeting with Board of Health.

### **4. Wreath Update**

The EDC will be tentatively hanging the wreaths on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are welcome. The Town Common will be holding a tree lighting ceremony that evening at 6 p.m. The wreaths will be installed facing the direction of traffic on each side of the road. 50 wreaths will be installed. H. Demmer questioned whether B. Slater could order the wreaths with the bows attached this year. If not, the Committee suggested attaching the bows ahead of time. M. Ayotte offered to use his property to attach the bows prior to installation. If not, M. Murphy offered to use his property on Main Street at the time of installation to connect the bows to the wreaths. Possibly have two groups - one for connecting bows and one for installing

the wreaths on the utility poles. D. Pettit will determine if the wreaths should be connected directly to the poles with zip ties or use wire loops on the wreaths to guide the zip ties around the poles. M Ayotte will order the 4ft. zip ties. The Committee will meet at 8 a.m. on Saturday.

The EDC agreed not to allow for personalized bow colors on the wreaths. The group prefers one color of bows on the wreaths. H. Demmer will reach out to Nashoba Food Allergy Education and Awareness to inform them. They requested (if possible) a teal bow in honor of their own initiative.

### **5. Ribbon Cutting - review Laurel Learning Center**

H. Demmer, Lysa Miller and E. Uriarte attended ribbon cutting at Laurel Learning. The event was successful and well attend. Clinton Savings Bank will likely have a ribbon cutting for their new building and is coordinating with the local chamber of commerce.

### **6. Budget Update**

EDC will request another \$1,000 for FY 2017. Budget will likely be used for marketing and an EDC event again.

### **7. Town Update**

Houde Realty is proposing a commercial building at 470 Main Street with the possibility of two tenant spaces (restaurant and retail). Design Review Board met to discuss design. D. Pettit noted that the applicant may need a sign at the road to help promote the tenant that will be located in the rear of the building.

Possible uses for the Skinner property were discussed. E. Uriarte noted the owner may be interested in a cottage overlay district to allow for increased housing density. The EDC would like to see the property be used for business since it is one of the few properties zoned business in Town. The Committee discussed the possibility of an urgent care facility, primary care facility or pharmacy be located on the property instead.

### **Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.**

E. Neyland motioned to adjourn meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by M. Ayotte. All in favor 5/0/0.