

Holliston Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2017

In Attendance: Chairman Peter Barbieri, Lisa Zais, Susan Russo, Kate Lamontagne and David Thorn. Robert Warburton was absent. Also present was Town Administrator Jeff Ritter.

Call to Order: The Chairman called the regular meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room #105 of the Town Hall, 703 Washington Street.

Downtown Discussion. Some discussion of Economic Target Area followed the Chairman noting that there is a potential for MassDevelopment grant funding for potential study and remediation of the 9 Green Street property. Ms. Sherman and Mr. Ritter will investigate the process of designation and qualification criteria for the May meeting.

Zoning Amendments. The Chairman provided some feedback from the April 3rd Planning Board Public Hearing. Mr. Thorn did not participate in the discussion as he is a member of the Planning Board. The Chairman disclosed that he has a client that could be considered proposed prohibited uses 8 and 9 in the petition article of 9 explicit townwide prohibitions under Section I-D. He clarified that the current by-law provision allows for a business to have 25% of the area of their building as outdoor storage of materials and equipment by-right and any storage in excess could be allowed by Special Permit. He touched on the issue of business and the Special Permit process; that is, allowing uses conditionally and relying on enforcement efforts for compliance. Speaking against the article were Alan Stone of Highland Street, Michael Brumber of Prospect Street and Herb Brockert of High Street. The three noted the existing businesses on Lowland Street and their function in the community. Mr. Brumber added that his existing uses and proposed use could be construed as proposed prohibited use 5, 7, 8 and 9. Mr. Brockert noted that his site has housed 5 or 6 small businesses with parking and storage on site and provides a valuable function for renters.

Mrs. Russo made a motion to convey the EDC's lack of support for the article to the Planning Board for their consideration later this evening. Mrs. Zais seconded. The vote in favor was 4- 0 -1 (Mr. Thorn).

General Business:

Global Design and Publishing, LLC contract

Mrs. Russo made a motion to approve the Contract Agreement subject to Town Counsel review, Mrs. Lamontagne seconded with all in favor. Mrs. Zais asked for clarification on the turnaround time. The Chairman clarified 6 months with interim review of text by the EDC. The brochure will be ad-based and will be produced at no cost to the Town.

Fee Structure Review: Regulatory Boards

The Chairman asked members if they were interested in reviewing fee structures and making recommendations to regulatory boards. Members did not express interest in this task.

FY18 Budget

Mr. Ritter reported that the Finance Committee had endorsed the budget request for July -17 or June -18.

oVillage on the Green o 40B Project - 245 Washington Street

Peter Conant of Own A Home MA will be asked to be present at the May meeting to provide an overview of the proposed 16-unit townhouse project recently filed with the Zoning Board of Appeals. The ZBA public hearing is scheduled for May 3rd at Adams School Auditorium.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 a.m. on a motion made and duly seconded. The next meeting was scheduled for May 4, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

Karen L. Sherman, Town Planner/ED Director

Approved: May 4, 2017