

**Holliston Economic Development Committee  
Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2018**

**Present:** Chairman Peter Barbieri, Susan Russo, Lisa Zais, and Matt Coletti. Also present was Town Administrator Jeff Ritter. David Thorn was absent.

**Call to Order:** The Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:43 a.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room (#105) of Town Hall.

**General Business:**

1. **Downtown Issues:** Mr. Ritter reported that the Blair Square Committee would be having its start-up meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Discussion followed about the importance of wayfinding measures and examples from other communities. Mr. Ritter also noted the status of the 8-Arch Bridge construction and the plans developing for an official ribbon cutting for the Upper Charles Trail in July. It was noted that 9 Green Street appears to be re-listed on the real estate market at a reduced price of \$350,000 with \$100,000 for clean-up expenses. The Town Treasurer has confirmed that there is now an April deadline in the Land Court taking. Washington Street traffic signal improvements should be underway in April and should wrap up by June. Mr. Coletti noted the development of temporary skating rinks in some of the surrounding Towns and noted that Goodwill Park presents an excellent opportunity. He will follow-up with the Parks and Recreation Department or Commission.
2. **Industrial Park Updates:** The Expedited Permitting (c. 43D) and Hopping Brook Business Park Priority Development Site is proceeding to state approval. Ms. Sherman reported that the prior acceptance of Hopping Brook Road has not been recorded at the Registry of Deeds properly and has the potential to create a problem for the phase II development. She and Mr. Ritter will address the issues with Town Counsel for potential action at the annual town meeting.
3. **Business & Community Guide and Local Permitting Guide:** Draft copy from GDP Publishing is expected for review in March (i.e. Location, Why Live in Holliston, Why Do Business in Holliston, Of Special Interest, Schools, and Highlights). With the recent hiring of Conservation Commission staff, the permitting guide update can go forward. Prices for reproduction should follow in March or April.
4. **FY19 Budget Request:** It was reported that the Committee's budget request was previewed by the Finance Committee at its January 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting with no push back.
5. **495/Metrowest Profile:** The Chairman shared the final report for the 495/MetroWest Suburban Edge Commission prepared by the Public Policy Center at UMassDartmouth. He noted that he had run into management at Herb Chambers Companies and they are very pleased with their new location on Bartzak Drive and the permitting and inspection processes they have experienced. Mr. Ritter noted that he would like to follow-up with them on the potential donation of a van for the Senior Center. Discussion of follow-up on a tour and ribboncutting for the collision center and wholesale parts facility followed.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m. on a motion made and duly seconded with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Sherman, Town Planner