

Holliston Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes of October 14, 2020

Call to Order: The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Legislation. A roll call vote of Members present was taken. **Present:** Chairman Peter Barbieri, Glen Brown, Matt Coletti and Christine Carosella. David Thorn and Lisa Zais were absent.

1. **EDC Mission.** – The Chair provided job descriptions for other economic development directors and the Committee agreed that the position needs to be more than a secretary position. It was agreed that an updated job description would be reviewed at the next meeting.
2. **Brownfields Designation.** The Chair reported that the Town has been asked to investigate the designation of industrial areas of the Town as an Economically Distressed Areas so that property owners should receive Brownfield Tax Credits. The proponent of the request is a solar field project developer. Materials were reviewed as to the financial impact of such a designation and the numerous cities and towns that have adopted the designation.. Travis Ahern, Town Administrator responded to the questions, but more information is needed. No action was taking on the request for designation. More information will be provided of the next meeting.
3. **Industrial Park Discussion.** No new tenancies or project reports were provided. A resident of Medway raised a question as to the proposed warehouse development at Hopping Brook Park. It was reported that nothing was received and nothing is being discussed on that and that the Committee keeps an agenda item for all industrial parks and downtown so that if projects are proposed and reports received then the matter can be discussed.
4. **Downtown Discussion.** The Chair reported that the attorney for the gas station at 799 Washington Street requested to present information on the proposed re-use of the station. George Richards, attorney for the owner described the proposed re-use of the station noting that the matter is scheduled for a Zoning Board of Appeals hearing later in the month, but that information is still being put together and that the meeting would be continued. Board members asked about the traffic relating to the re-use and the proposed plans for improvements to the building. Attorney Richard agreed to provide additional information on the project of the Board's next meeting. No action was taken on the project.
5. **Website.** The Chair reported on the Town Hopkinton's website that has a very good page for business and permitting. The members were asked to review the page and the matter will be discussed at the next meeting. The members believe a similar page would be helpful for Holliston Businesses.
6. **Minutes.** The minutes of September 9 were reviewed. On a motion by Matt Colletti seconded by Christina Carosella the minutes were approved by unanimous vote.
7. **Zoning/Planning Applications.** No new commercial zoning/planning applications were noted as being filed with the Town.
8. **New Business.** No New Business items were discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Barbieri
Chairman