



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Date: September 27, 2023
Time: 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Location: Town Manager's Conference Room
Address: 43 Bombardier Rd., Milton, VT 05468
Contact: (802) 893-6655
Website: www.miltonvt.gov

MINUTES

Members Present: Don Turner, Jr., Town Manager/Chair; Cymone Bedford, Planning & Development Review Director; Lou Mossey, Community Member; Robert Lombard, Community Member; Anthony Micklus, Business Member; Michael Joseph, Business Member; June Mary Plankey, Business Member

Members Absent: Amy Rex, Superintendent of Schools; Lindsey Ruhl, Community Member; Richard Saunders, Business Member; Richard DeSouza, Business Member; Jenna Tucker Eugair, Recreation Director

Others Present: Irene Wrenner, Senator, Chittenden North District; Brittany Tradup, Town Manager's Office; Matt Grasso, Milton Town School District

1. Call to Order

D. Turner called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

2. Attendance

Attendees signed in.

3. Agenda Review

There were no changes to this agenda at this point. D. Turner suggested that the group add a brainstorm of goals to a future agenda.

4. Public Forum

M. Joseph made a statement.

5. Approval of Minutes of August 23, 2023

Motion made by A. Micklus to approve the Minutes of August 23, 2023, with a second by M. Joseph. Motion approved.

6. Update: Downtown Core Master Plan

C. Bedford provided an update stating that the group involved with this project has been working on interview questions and lists of stakeholders to interview on October 17. There was discussion about including members of the EDC in these interviews, and C. Bedford asked for

members to volunteer. J. Plankey volunteered, and there is still space for a second volunteer. There is also going to be a design workshop on November 4, to which the committee will be inviting the community and state agencies relevant to development in the community. The project team has collected many completed surveys through Milton on the Move, combined with over 500 online surveys. An update will be presented to the Selectboard at an upcoming meeting.

7. Set Date and Location for Fall Social

D. Turner suggested holding the October 25 meeting at the newly renovated Milton Grange Hall, and there was a discussion about planning networking-focused activities and a guest speaker that can provide information on business resources in the area. J. Plankey will work with B. Tradup to plan the event.

8. Milton on the Move Update

In the absence of Milton on the Move representative, D. Turner asked M. Grasso to provide an update from the school.

9. Milton Town School District Update

M. Grasso provided an update on several efforts that the school is working on simultaneously regarding the Herrick Avenue Project:

- Waiting to hear if state funding might be available.
- Waiting to hear about next steps in PCB testing.
- The estimated project cost has increased significantly in the past year, and the tax impact has recently been calculated and discussed. The school is now revisiting alternative options and working with the Town on possible solutions.

10. Staff Updates

a. Planning / Zoning Update – Cymone Bedford

- i. C. Bedford reviewed several projects in the development review board queue.
- ii. MotoVermont on Route 7 should be complete next month, and they are looking for a lease tenant for the other half of the building.
- iii. The Planning Commission is building an action plan for AARP designation to include housing, transportation, etc.
 1. Proposed agenda item for the next EDC meeting: Need ideas, feedback, and/or insight on economic development opportunities in the aging of our population – especially opportunities that may overlap with other demographic groups. There was a brief brainstorm/discussion on this topic.

b. Recreation – D. Turner

- i. Finished resurfacing the pickle ball and tennis courts over the summer.
- ii. Several projects are in progress from the capital plan around maintaining the park.
- iii. Touch a Truck was a successful event.
- iv. Trunk or Treat is coming up in October.
- v. There are some ongoing issues with vandalism in the park, so the Town built some berms to define the areas and to stop people from tearing up the fields.

c. Town Projects Update – D. Turner

- i. Last Friday, the Town closed on 3.9 acres adjacent to this property.
- ii. The new Public Works Facility is in the ground works stage, building the infrastructure. The highway crew is doing sitework preparation. Tomorrow, there will be a walkthrough with prospective bidders on the building. First phase will be completed with base paving by thanksgiving. After that, there will be a break until around springtime.
- iii. Town Forest trail project is in the works to complete the ADA-accessible part of the trail, and the plan is to be done before snowfall.
- iv. For the Hourglass project, the Town is going through the legal process of acquiring the land needed.
- v. Two solar projects are in the works: One will be permitted this month from the public utility commission at the wastewater plant. The second, which is double the size and located at the old landfill, will have a projected lease revenue around \$75K.
- vi. Peerless Clothing has rented the new building on Route 7. They will have 40-50 employees.
- vii. There will be an adjustment to the grand list of about \$3M that will bring more tax dollars to the Town.
- viii. The Town will hold a grand reopening of the Grange on Oct 14. The building has been getting frequent reservations, and the Town is also working with Age Well on some senior programming.


11. Adjournment

Motion made by M. Joseph to adjourn the meeting with a second by J. Plankey. Motion Approved.

D. Turner adjourned the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

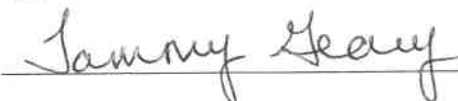
Respectfully Submitted,
Brittany Tradup

APPROVED MINUTES:


Don Turner, Jr., Chair

Date: 11/15/23

Filed with the Milton Town Clerk's Office on this 16th day of November, 2023.

ATTEST:  Asst., Milton Town Clerk

