

TOWN OF BOLTON
Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 25, 2018 7:00 p.m.
Room 9, Notch Road Municipal Center

Chairman Bill Anderson presided. Commission members also in attendance were Alex Ansaldi, Milton Hathaway and Cathy Teller. Others present were Jim Aldridge and Board Clerk Leslie Brand

I. Call to Order: B. Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

II. Approval/Modification of Minutes of July 31, 2018 Meeting: A motion was made by C. Teller to accept the minutes as written. A. Ansaldi seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment/Introduction of Guests

Jim Aldridge, 35 Hanover Farms Road, Bolton, owner of Aldrich Construction.

Mr. Aldridge is the builder of Bolton Lakes Dental on Route 44. He is not focused as much on economic development as he is the difficulty of doing business with the changing of building codes. The building code books are expensive and are not easily obtained. As an example, new building codes became law in October but the new code books were not available until March. The cross-referencing between code books is challenging. He has brought this dilemma to the attention of the BOS. A. Ansaldi noted that the building codes are not public domain i.e. on the internet. NFPA allows partial downloads of the code books but not full pages and there are a total of 8,605 code books.

Mr. Aldridge is unsure of the best way to stay current with building codes and thought that the new codes should not become a law until the books are available. And there should be a grace period to acquire the books and become familiar with the new codes. B. Anderson asked what the EDC can do to help. Mr. Aldrich noted that in some towns the EDC informally oversees planning, engineering and other departments. B. Anderson noted that it would be helpful to have a dedicated town employee to help to guide the process. M. Hathaway suggested to Mr. Aldridge that putting his concerns in writing would be a good start.

IV. On-going Business

A. Commission Members' Reports

1. P&Z Activities: Nothing of major note. Existing regulation definitions are being reviewed.

2. Quarterly Meetings w/ Land Use Boards: Nothing scheduled.

3. TCCC EDC subcommittee: M. Hathaway attended the last board meeting. B.

Anderson suggested investigating how Economic Development commissions are run in other towns and asked how changes could be made in Bolton to make the EDC more impactful.

4. Bolton Pond/Freja Park: The necessity and placement of a port-a-potty was revisited. The EDC needs to put together a business case tying the need to Economic Development. Bike Walk Bolton would be in favor.

5. Tax Abatement /Incentives: B. Anderson received a response from J. Stille that the BOS does not want to publish this information on the Town website. Requests will be handled on a case by case basis.

6. Stop Light @ Quarry Rd. & Route 44: Tabled due to the upcoming elections. It is more of a timing issue due to the lack of a turn arrow heading east than it is a safety issue. M. Hathaway to follow up.

7. Outreach/Trainings: None

B. EDC website: New businesses should be added but information is not being shared with the EDC. How can Email addresses be obtained from businesses so that the EDC can contact them? B. Anderson will contact the Town Assessor to see if there is a list of businesses available.

C. Branding Project/Welcome Signs: B. Anderson asked J. Stille about the size and placement of signs. Right of ways and permitting are still issues.

D. Bike Walk Bolton Proposal: No update on the placement of the kiosk. C. Teller to follow up.

E. Budget Balance: Report was submitted. C. Teller moved to allocate the funds necessary to renew membership in the TCCC. A. Ansaldi seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

V. New Business

A. Election of Officers: A. Ansaldi made a motion to elect B. Anderson as Chairman and C. Teller as Secretary. M. Hathaway seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Announcements

A. Next EDC Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 30, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 9 of the Notch Road Municipal Center.

VII. Adjournment: B. Anderson moved to adjourn at 9:00. A. Ansaldi seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie J. Brand

Leslie Brand
Board Clerk

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any changes to them.