



TOWN OF NORTON

Town Clerk Date/ Time Stamp
NORTON TOWN CLERK

2023 APR 14 AM 8:39

Board/ Committee: Economic Development Commission

Meeting Date: Monday, February 6, 2023 Time: 7:00 PM

Meeting Location: 70 East Main Street, 2nd Floor Meeting Area, Norton, MA

- Call to Order: 7:10pm
- Present: Renee Deley, Maggie Kinsella, Steve Warchal, and Julie Oakley
- Discussion and or vote of the following topics:
 1. Business updates
 - a. Steve visited NOAA and asked for an overview of they did here in Norton. It's a combination facility that handles weather and watershed analysis in the area. They handle emergency situations and getting the word out via the media. Discussed being a storm ready community and getting some weather monitoring equipment on buildings in town. Mansfield and Taunton are storm ready communities. Steve could arrange a tour and they have a meeting room there as well. Steve will follow up to potentially hold a meeting there. Steve will also reach out to Norton Emergency about this discussion as well.
 2. Planning updates (in no particular order)
 - a. Planning and Economic Development Director updates
 - i. Maria provided updates on the action items from the last meeting she attended with the Commission.
 - ii. MassWork – Elm Street Sewer Construction project for \$4.5M with \$4 from Town funds.
 - iii. Joint Water and Sewer Commission meeting can be planned in March. Maria will try and see if she can map the areas where sewer has been implemented.
 - iv. Maria is working with the life science consultant to look to match the same ranking of Mansfield. This will include zoning changes that would be needed.
 - v. Maria talked to SRPEDD about working on a feasibility analysis to start to work on the MBTA zoning mandate. For \$10,000 SRPEDD could write the zoning for the MBTA mandate.
 - vi. Maria is looking for funding for a complete zoning rewrite.
 - b. Master Plan action items
 - i. None discussed at this meeting, but other topic areas covered some of the Master Plan action items.
 - c. Zoning review and discussion

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- i. Steve gave an overview of this work on the zoning and mapping uses with his overall thought on the future of land use in the town.
 - ii. Could the Town turn paper roads into dirt roads or paths to access some of the open spaces that exist in the Town?
 - iii. Community Preservation Act – Did we pass that in 2003 during town meeting? Maria is looking into this. If we did pass or could pass this designation it could be more funding for the Town.
 - d. Local business outreach: Database and Agenda review for Phase 1 to include 50 businesses
 - i. Maggie gave an overview of her work to date on the zoning database. She mapped all the businesses on Google Maps to see where businesses are located in relation to the zoning districts of commercial, industrial, and village commercial. Maggie also did a pivot table to help organized the data.
 - e. Collaboration with Norton Business Association (“NBA”) update
 - i. Kevin is reaching out to Steve Hornsby to see the status of his efforts.
 - ii. Maria said that the NBA will have a newsletter where businesses can sign up and be added to a database.
- 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes: MRS 9/23/20, 9/24/20, 10/8/20, 10/21/20, 10/29/20; 8/3/2022, 8/17/2022, 9/12/2022, 10/19/2022, 12/19/2022, 1/9/2023, 1/23/2023
- Other Business: Topics not Reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance
- Next Meeting Date: February 20, 2023
- Future Meeting Topics:
 - 1. Mobile Food Vendors Process (BOH)
 - 2. Planning updates
 - Collaboration with Parks & Rec (Planning Dept business list)
 - Collaboration with Veterans’ Services
 - 3. Updates on vacant commercial properties
 - Bylaw and/or registration of vacancy/abandonment
 - 4. Neighborhood Association discussion
 - 5. Tri-Town Chamber of Commerce
- Adjourned: 9:31pm_____

Please note it is possible that a vote or votes may be taken by the Commission regarding the above agenda items.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Julie Oakley

Minutes approved by the Commission on: April 12, 2023

Chairman Signature:

