

**A JOINT MEETING OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE AND TOWN COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2022 – 6:00 PM
REMOTE**

MINUTES

Subcommittee Members in Attendance: Committee Chairman David Adams, Ctz Mbr Bernardone and Ctz Mbr LaRochelle

Subcommittee Members Absent: Clr Lazo and Clr Daou

Others: TM Michael McCall, Clr Marketti, Ms. Blakely, Clr Daniel, Clr Jovan, BSC Group and Peg Dean

Documents:

-Draft Meeting Minutes from January 3, 2022

-Memorandum: MassDOT Shared Streets RRFB construction Change Order #1.

-Memorandum: Apply for the Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Travel Tourism and Outdoor Recreation grant and approve letter of intent to enter into lease should funds be secured.

-Memorandum: Submit Expression of Interest (EOI) to Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (EOHED) Recommended Zoning Maps

6:00 PM meeting called to order

1. Roll Call

2. Consider and accept Planning and Development Meeting Minutes of January 3, 2022.
Motion Ctz Mbr Bernardone, Seconded by Mbr LaRochelle, 3-0-0.

3. Discuss/review whether to recommend Town Council approve Change Order #1 to J.H. Lynch's Shared Streets construction contract to deduct \$23, 876.40 and extend completion to May 15, 2022.

Motion Ctz Mbr LaRochelle, Seconded by Ctz Mbr Bernardone, 3-0-0.

Ms. Dean summarized, this change was from the five RRFB the town did this summer and these funds will be put back into the sidewalk account and asking for extension because of some delays on Main Street this past year. Clr Marketti asked if this item should go to the DPW Subcommittee because of the sidewalk accounts. Ms. Dean explained that they work so closely together that sometimes these items intermix, Shared Streets has always gone through the P&D Subcommittee. Clr Adams noted we can work on this issue in the future before the meetings are scheduled.

4. Discuss/ review whether to apply for the Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Travel Tourism and Outdoor Recreation grant for up to \$5,000,000 for design and construction of the Quinebaug Valley Rail Trail from Dudley to Sturbridge and approve the Town Manager to sign a letter of intent to enter into a lease agreement with Mass DOT should funds be secured contingent on the Town adopting the DEP's Best Management Practices for Controlling Exposure to Soil during the Development of Rail Trails when designing the rail trail and allow the Town Manager to sign any related paperwork.

Motion Ctz Mbr Bernardone, Seconded by Ctz Mbr LaRochelle, 3-0-0.

Mr. Bassar from BSC Group wants to apply for this grant in order to build the rail trail. To have a strong chance at applying for this grant the town has to show a plan which shows the reality of it actually succeeding. He presented a feasibility study noting it can be done but explained there is a lot of permitting that has to be done along with further detailed design. He displayed the overview of the design, its cost (\$5.6 million), some challenges and other aspects, the trail would go from Dudley to Sturbridge. He noted this trail and its application falls under the recreation and tourism and feels there is a lot of support. Ms. Dean wanted to make note this planning for the rail trail has been going on since 2007 and is in the town's master plan. There were concerns about hazardous waste, Ms. Dean explained they would be following the DEP best practices further noted what the next steps would be. The Town Manager reiterated what Ms. Dean stated and wanted to stress the positive economic impact for the town. Mr. Marketti wanted to state he was concerned about the liability and felt everyone should read over the contract from MassDOT. Ctr Daniel stated he supports this project and encourages others to vote in favor.

5. Discuss/review whether to submit the Expression of Interest (EOI) to the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (EOHED) to receive feedback in preparation for applying for the One Stop for Growth grant opportunities due in June 2022.

Motion Ctz Mbr Bernardone, Seconded by Ctz Mbr LaRochelle, 3-0-0.

Ms. Dean noted there are 10 grant opportunities available to us through One Stop for Growth Grant, but the town is only allowed to apply for five. She stated the following five, MassWorks Grant for Hamilton St. part of the TIP in that area of the downtown and follows the pavement management plan, historic kiosks in downtown, a mural project in the downtown, bolster underutilized projects in the downtown that were recommended by the BSC Group and how to revitalize Globe Village. Ctr Marketti thinks this is great idea and asked if Ms. Dean could provide a further briefing, Ms. Dean went over each one that was in the packet.

6. Recommend the Town Council approve entering into agreements with Central Pizza's property owners to allow them use of town land for propane and share dumpsters and allow the Town Manager to sign all related paperwork.

Clr Adams stated he will remove this agenda item since Central Pizza was not prepared to present.

7. Adjourn

Motion by Ctz Mbr Bernardone, Seconded by Ctz Mbr LaRochelle, 3-0-0, 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David Adams