

Minutes, Bucksport Economic Development Committee – June 13, 2017

David Kee called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

I. Attendance:

- A. EDC Committee Members Present: *David Kee, Mark Eastman, Paul Rabs, Jim Boothby, Linda Plourde, John Paul LaLonde, Daphne Eyerer, Frank Dunbar*
- B. Town Employees Present: *Jeff Hammond and Rich Rotella.*

II. Minutes:

- A. No previous minutes.

III. Public Participation:

- A. No public Participation.

IV. Signs – Conditions of existing signs and next steps

- A. Rich Rotella presenting:
 - a. Reviewed all signs in Town.
 - i. AIM Site (Gateway Sign)
 - ii. Veterans Memorial Site (Gateway Sign).
 - iii. Wastewater Treatment Plant (Attraction Sign).
 - iv. Verona wood sign on land (Attraction Sign).
 - v. Verona metal sign on bridge (Attraction Sign).
 - vi. Heritage Park (Business Sign).
 - b. Possible People to fix/replace signs
 - i. Kim Delbridge (Banner City Graphics)
 - ii. Linwood Bridges
 - iii. Paul Tibbitts
 - c. Public Comments
 - i. Mr. Tibbitts spoke of his experiences with signs
 - ii. Mr. Tibbitts spoke of how he would fix these signs.
 - d. Committee Comments
 - i. Paul R – Have the sign on the land at Verona say “Downtown Bucksport Left”
 - ii. John Paul – Do we risk getting ahead of ourselves with signage if message changes from EPA Grant Group findings?
 - iii. Daphne – What sign is the most important to fix?
 - iv. Linda – If Gateway signs are failing lets fix them.
 - v. Jim B – Recommended working on signs in 3 phases (gateway, attraction, and business sign) if done all at once it will be kicked down the road
 - vi. David – Get the Council involved for general discussions on signs.
 - vii. John Paul – Do businesses in Heritage Park have skin in the game with signs?
 - viii. Mark – Questioned if Freshwater Stone actually in Industrial Park and Jeff H. said they are part of a separate subdivision.
 - ix. John Paul – Made a motion to present to Council for Gateway Signs to be repaired/replaced and to get bids to have the work done.
 - x. Jim B – Seconded the motion
 - xi. David – Suggested making a 3rd Gateway Sign and adding it to Verona.
 - xii. Motion approved 7-0.

- xiii. John Paul – suggested subcommittee for signs to visit other industrial parks and see what works and what doesn't work.

V. CEO/Planning Board Update

A. Jeff Hammond gave update

- a. Planning Board request to DEP
 - i. Agreed to request for a reduction of dimensional standards in the Shore Land District which would benefit further development of the Commercial Downtown Area with modifications.
 - ii. Modifications
 - 1. Minimum lot size 1,000 square feet
 - 2. 0 Shore frontage requirement
 - 3. Lot coverage 100% was previously 80%
 - iii. Other request from DEP due to this change
 - 1. Hannaford & Irving removed from DTS and moved to Route 1 Shore Land District which includes all other properties from the Teagan Bridge to the town line
- b. Planning Board public hearing set for July 5, 2017
 - i. Changes to Downtown Shore Land District which are listed above
 - ii. Amendments for Retail Marijuana Establishments
- c. Jeff working on other Amendments
 - i. Chapter 2
 - 1. Approximately 120 pages with safety regulations.
 - 2. Revision will take out of the chapter and allow public safety to update as they see fit to keep up-to-date with OSHA and DOL safety standards.
 - ii. Appendix I
 - 1. Solid waste flow control ordinance
 - 2. Deals with Transfer Station
 - 3. Outdated and needs to be addressed
- d. Wilson Hall
 - i. RFP for roof and window bids
 - ii. Mandatory pre-bid meeting was held with 7 firms in attendance
 - iii. Bid deadline is June 21st at 4pm.
- e. DOT
 - i. Route 1/Route 46 intersection
 - 1. Closed today until tomorrow evening
 - 2. Closed next Monday
 - 3. Repairing drainage and adding a turn lane
- f. Dilapidated Buildings
 - i. Route 1 House located next to Subway
 - ii. Mercer Property also located on Route 1
 - 1. Jeff is contemplating taking action on the above properties
 - 2. Jeff not sure why we allow these properties to exist on Route 1
 - 3. Jeff is confident these properties are violating Town Ordinance

VI. Economic Development Director Update

A. Rich provided his update

- a. May 1st he has taken over responsibility of the waterfront & marina.
- b. New trash receptacles will be delivered tomorrow
- c. New picnic tables built by RSU 25 will be delivered tomorrow by town crew

- d. Attended training on TIF's and CEA's in Augusta
- e. Attended Bucksport Day in Augusta
- f. Met with owner of Powerwise and department heads for electric vehicle charging station in public parking spot located next to Powerwise building
- g. Worked with dept. heads and DOT for 6 new parking spots on Main St between Sawyer's Auto Body and State Farm Insurance
- h. Met with DOT and dept. heads in regards to cross walks in Town most of which are non-compliant for one of the following reasons
 - i. Walkway is not at least 6' wide
 - ii. Red bump out nubs are worn away
 - iii. Crosswalks not ending on sidewalks but in driveways
- i. Sat in on interviews of 2 consulting firms for the \$200k EPA Area Wide Planning Grant
- j. Meeting tomorrow with WLBZ2 on new marketing program "Premion"
- k. New/relocated businesses to Town
 - i. Blossoms By The Bay
 - ii. Endless Summer Tanning
 - iii. Prim & Treasured Thymes

VII. Community Updates

A. RSU 25 (Jim Boothby)

- a. Completed Commencement.
- b. Voting taking place today on school budget.
- c. Partnership with YMCA going well
 - i. Summer programming has a lot to offer
- d. 1st D.A.R.E. graduation was today
- e. Working on last phase of Strategic Plan Review
 - i. High response rates
 - ii. Great Feedback
 - iii. Next iteration in the Fall
- f. Invited by Stockton Springs to speak to 60 or so fully engaged townspeople during the 1 hour presentation.
 - i. Not everyone was receptive.
 - ii. Discussion still in their hands and we will respond when requested.

B. Chamber of Commerce (Rich)

- a. Still planning 225th Celebration
- b. Have lined up Timber Tina's Lumberjack Show to perform at Marina Parking Lot

C. Main Street Bucksport (John Paul LaLonde)

- a. Planning Fundraising Dinner for the month of August somewhere on Main Street
- b. Going to host International Maritime Film Festival during September
- c. Arts Festival will be going on in August

D. Heart & Soul (John Paul LaLonde)

- a. Getting close to wrapping up story gathering phase.
- b. Will begin formulating data.
- c. Hoping to complete Heart & Soul Phase 4 by end of the year currently in Phase 2

E. Friends of Silver Lake (Linda Plourde)

- a. Meeting held on May 24th with 17 people in attendance
- b. Speaker from DEP was very good
 - i. Spoke about flushing from Silver Lake w/o water flow we no longer have
 - ii. Reassured not as bad as the group thought it might be
- c. Waiting on AIM for Emergency Action Plan on dams

- F. Wednesdays On Main (David Kee)
 - a. Season starts tomorrow
 - b. Added this year 4 different movies in September about Rock-N-Roll
- VIII. Old/New Business
 - a. Rich let the group know that as part of the Comprehensive Plan one of the objectives is to update the 2007 Economic Development Plan.
 - b. Paul brought up consolidating the 7 different base committees to 4.
 - c. Paul proposed set our meeting like the others where we are called to meet when something is presented to us.
 - d. Paul suggested adding signs to the CIP like other purchases
- IX. **Adjournment:** Frank made the motion at 6:16 pm and it was seconded by Linda.

Submitted by Rich Rotella

Next BEDC Meeting has not been scheduled at this time!

Please note audio of this meeting is available on the town's website.