

Economic Development Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, 21 May 2018 Meeting
9:02 am

Attendees: Vice Chair, Mike Pineo
Richard Maki
TA, Ross Perry

Treasurer, Brian Kindorf
Secretary, Rosanne Mapp
BOS, Maureen Cranson

Guest: Lex Thomas

Non-attendees: Chair, Jim Patacchiola

Paul Cathcart

Call to Order: 9:04 am

Minutes of 23 April 2018 meeting. Approved as written:

1st: R. Maki 2nd: B. Kindorf All in favor

Lex Thomas Update:

- Presented a prototype of a 8.5x11" Pamphlet for "The Sterling Choice" information brochure.
- Would like to include a flow chart of the process of obtaining License (signatures) for potential businesses.
- She will contact Monty Tech's Publication Department for printing.
- Press release went out re Town Pride Day in Meetinghouse News, The Item and Landmark.
- Will do an article on the New Town Planner and feed to other publication.
- CMRPC. Lex received notification from Janet Pierce regarding Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) grants from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) that will envelop 40 communities in Central MA. Deadline was 7 May; however, L. Thomas will pursue with Ms. Pierce.
- R. Maki suggests a logo of our "Mary's Lamb" be placed on all future correspondence from the Town of Sterling and all Boards, Committees, etc.

Sterling Pride:

- R. Maki stated the event was a success for being the first attempt. Good beginning.
- Approximately 50 people signed up covering approximately 20% of the town.
- The DPW was given the map of the streets cleaned up and will collect the bags today (21 May 2018).
- In future, suggestions include: reaching out to schools, PTO, Scout organizations. Make an event of it by bringing in music (perhaps the school band) and food. Should also include a preliminary meeting.
- R. Maki contacted the prison personnel to inquire if prisoners could be part of this year's clean up. Four streets were suggested. R. Maki will make contact.

Budget update. B. Kindorf, Treasurer

- EDC budget for FY2019 of \$26K...approved at Town Meeting.

- No change. \$13,500.00 remains.

Town Activity: M. Pineo

Town Planner:

- The Planning Board will work on the Job Description for the Town Planner position that was approved at Town Meeting. They will include information they already have.
- The Planning Board will place on their Agenda within the next couple of meetings.
- Anticipate posting for position in mid-June.
- Committee should consist of 5-7 people.
- L. Thomas stated that it could be posted in the next Meetinghouse News edition.
- Submit information no later than 8 June 2018.

Farmer's Market:

- New faces this year. Will be additional faces when season is more conducive to growing
- There's a new Meat producer from Princeton.

BOS Report/Update: M. Cranson

Abandoned/Nuisance Property. R. Perry

- Topic will be addressed at this **Wednesday's Board of Select-person's meeting (23 May 2018)**. List of properties (17) has been collected.
- Thursday, 24 May 2018 there is a Master Plan Meeting
- There was an Auction 17 May 2018 for the Agway property on Route 62 and Chocksett Road. Property went for \$395,000 plus \$30,000 back taxes.
- Complete Streets will be a topic of conversation at next BOS meeting 23 May.

EDC Sub Committee

- P. Cathcart, R. Maki and M. Pineo
- B. Kindorf will look into the Santander property to determine what their plan is for the vacant bank.

On Going Projects.

- All Boards Meeting. Will there be a follow up.
 - Richard Maki would like a meeting with other boards to discuss items that the EDC is working on to determine who should pursue joint issues.
- R. Maki stated that people are interested in Senior Housing in Sterling/not low-income.
- M. Cranson stated that she has spoken to 2 developers recently. She will ask them if they are interested.
- P. Cathcart suggested putting signs up with "Littering" signs.
 - R. Maki spoke with the Chief Chamberlain who is in favor of posting signs. It will help them enforce fines if it is posted.
 - Questions open: Where should they be placed.
 - Check with DPW for their sign manufacturer
- R. Perry will look into delinquent properties.
 - On Board of Select-person's agenda this Wednesday, 23 May.
- R. Perry will continue to pursue with the Building Department. Where do we go from here?
- Worcester St. Garage--a potential buyer. ? if there is some way to give owner incentive to reduce the cost. The price is too high.

Parking Update.

- R Maki stated they need to know the # spaces to give reassurance. Conversation about contacting WPI to inquire if they had an Intern Program for students to work in the community.

Town Center Revitalization Project

- 2012 plan needs to be resurfaced and updated.
- Sidewalk plan 2-3 years out Sewer plan 5-10 years out.
- B. Kindorf would like to revisit this information in the next meeting.
R. Perry will bring plans out.

Next MEETING:

☐☐ Monday, 25 JUNE 2018, 9:00 am. BOS Mtg. Room

Adjourn 10:13 am Motion M. Cranson 2nd. B. Kindorf All in favor.