

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15

**Town of Boscawen
Economic Development
Boscawen Municipal Complex
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 3, 2021 at 5:30 PM**

16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

Present: Mason Donovan – Chair; Barbara Randall–Vice Chair; John Porter; Caroletta Alicea;
Lorrie Carey –Ex-Officio;
Mike Tardiff, Executive Director - **Central NH Regional Planning Commission**

26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33

Staff Present: Kellee Jo Easler – Planning & Community Development Director; Crystal Tuttle–
Recording Secretary; Nicole Hoyt- Town Clerk

34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44

Chair Donovan opened the meeting at 5:35 P.M.

Director Easler read off the Covid-19 Public Meeting Notice of Telephonic Meetings, which reads as follows: In light of the state of emergency declared by the Governor on March 13, 2020, and to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, the chair has determined that an emergency exists and that accordingly, until further notice, (a) members of the board may attend all board meetings telephonically, without the physical presence of a quorum; and (b) members of the public who wish to participate in hearings may, on request, participate telephonically or submit comments in writing to be included in the record of the hearing.

Roll call completed by Director Easler.

Motion made by Mr. Porter to accept the draft minutes from April. Vice Chair Randall seconded. All in favor. None Opposed.

Director Easler asked if the committee would like to designate a member to record action items, and Chair Donovan asked if Ms. Tuttle could record the action items.

Old Business:

Executive Director Tardiff wanted to touch base with the committee about the future King Street project. The graphic that was used when the project was created showed a roundabout proposed at the Rte. 3 & 4 split. At the preliminary engineer meeting, the pros and cons of this roundabout can be discussed. Vice Chair Randall asked about the radius of the roundabout and if it was larger than the roundabout located further down the road, as trucks travel this route very often. Executive Director Tardiff explained that the proposed radius is 65 feet, which is significantly larger than the other Boscawen roundabout. Chair Donovan commented that he believes the roundabout is a good idea, as this will prevent accidents and it will make the change to either route easier. Ms.Carey also stated that this will make large events, such as the Veterans

45 Cemetery ceremonies, easier to navigate as currently they require a police detail. Ms. Carey
46 asked about granite curbing and landscaping, and Executive Director Tardiff stated these are all
47 things to discuss at the preliminary meeting. On the third sheet of graphics, Executive Director
48 Tardiff discussed a pedestrian island at the intersection of Route 4 and Depot St. that allows
49 space for pedestrians to cross and adds more interest on King Street. Ms. Carey also discussed
50 the possibility of adding something similar to the intersection at River Road, as this is where the
51 largest housing development on King Street is located and many of the residents cross at this
52 point. Mr. Porter expressed interest in a smart traffic light at the base of Queen Street as well.
53 Chair Donovan asked if the Federal Infrastructure Plan gets passed, if this could move the project
54 ahead of the proposed timeline. Executive Director Tardiff said this could be possible, as many
55 projects are being accelerated.

56
57 Executive Director Tardiff then spoke about the Village tax incentive that could be passed at
58 Town meeting. He recommended educating residents on what this tax incentive entails to ensure
59 it is passed. This can be done by reaching out to all property owners within this zone, hosting
60 workshops, and posting information on the Town website. Ms. Carey asked Executive Director
61 Tardiff to review the incentive that had just been passed by the Select Board so everyone could
62 understand the details. Executive Director Tardiff explained that the Town implemented
63 Economic Revitalization Zones (ERZ's) that were approved by the State. This includes areas to
64 the south of Valley of Industry, Crescent Street, and Commercial Street. This is a program that
65 enables property owners within this zone who invest in their business infrastructure and hire
66 employees to receive a tax incentive. This was a Select Board application because it involves
67 business profits tax, as opposed to the 79E tax incentive needs to be voted on at Town meeting
68 because it involves property taxes. There is also a commercial/ industrial tax incentive that
69 involves a gradation system of tax valuations for a specific period of time.

70

71 **New Business:**

72

73 Town Clerk Hoyt spoke about Welcome to Boscawen bags for the influx of new residents
74 moving into Town. These bags would include instructions on how to register your vehicle,
75 include coupons to local businesses, and other things necessary to navigate the Town. She stated
76 that the Town website has added local job opportunities but should consider updating the
77 business section. Chair Donovan also suggested making welcome bags for businesses and adding
78 conference locations on the website as well, such as Avaloch or the Winthrop Carter House.
79 Town Clerk Hoyt and Ms. Carey agreed that letters should be sent to local businesses asking for
80 their input as to what they would like seen on the Town website. Town Clerk Hoyt then asked
81 the committee how they feel about turning on the Town car tax, which charges each resident that
82 owns a vehicle \$5 and this money can be used towards the King Street project. This would be a
83 warrant article.

84

85 The next Economic Development Committee meeting will be held at Avaloch. The July meeting
86 will be held on July 12th, as July 5th is a holiday.

87

88

89 **Vice Chair Randall motioned to adjourn. Ms. Carey seconded. All in favor.**

90

91 The Next Meeting is June 7, 2021 @ 5:30 P.M.

92 *Respectfully submitted by, Crystal Tuttle.*

93

94

95

DRAFT