

## **EDC Meeting Minutes 01/03/2007**

Hopkinton, NH Economic Development Committee

Minutes of January 3, 2007 Meeting

Chairperson, Judy Hampe, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Committee members present were Judy Hampe, Sue Leadbeater, Cettie Connolly, Robert Houston, Bruce Ellsworth, Peter Russell, John Herrick, Chris Lawless, and Glen Ohlund

Minutes of 12/3/2006 were approved with the following changes

a) Chris Lawless was in attendance

b) Committee agreed to meet on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 to continue tax diversification discussion. Strike: Peter Russell requested the Committee meet

### **Old Business**

Conflict of Interest-

Initial discussion concluded that as an Advisory Committee to the Select Board, members of the EDC should disclose any possible conflicts of interest they might have with work under consideration by the committee. Recusal or abstention from voting on the item under consideration is one possible solution discussed.

This discussion was the result of phone calls received by Committee members and reflects the need to have clear intentions and open discussions around the Burnham's Intervale Road project and others under consideration by the Committee.

There was also discussion about the membership composition of the EDC and who selected new members for approval by the Select Board. Glen Ohlund suggests that these be available in print for all to see, especially as interest in the TIF picks up.

CRDC Proposal Status-

The Committee agreed that the CRDC contract to conduct a feasibility study for a TIF District at Burnham's Intervale Road would be pursued with the possibility of a Warrant Article for 2008 Town Meeting. Committee agreed that 2007 work would include public information sessions on the topic.

#### EDC Role-

The EDC Role will include ongoing TIF feasibility discussion working with Select Board and CRDC.

feasible, establish district boundaries, required improvements, objectives, etc.

Efforts to adopt TIF at 2008 Town Meeting

Additional work w/ Select Board as needed

Throughout the evening, Peter Russell responded to a list of questions read by Cettie Connolly that she received from citizens. Some of these included:

Cost of limited ramps from I-89? Somewhere around four million dollars (2006)

Are ramps truly feasible? Part of work necessary to move this forward previous study results? Most if not all are available at the Town website.

#### RSA 79E Report-

Glen Ohlund stated that Chris Closs and he presented information on this economic development tool to the Select Board who suggested the following action plan

Discuss the bill with the Contoocook Hopkinton Business Association  
Define the Area

Analyze impact/benefits with Assessors Office

Conduct a windshield survey of likely buildings to and the aesthetic impact on the downtown or village center

### **Public Comment**

Three items of note during this phase of the meeting included:  
the need to control misinformation by getting info out on a regular basis  
need to get Federal Highway Administration on Board as soon as possible. It was suggested this this could happen concurrently with the NHDOT involvement  
Gordon Carr would like to serve as an advisory or non-voting member on the EDC, representing the Contoocook River Association.

### **New Business**

Glen Ohlund agreed to draft content for the Annual Report

John Herrick made a statement defining his primary interest in seeing the Burham's Intervale Road project move ahead is to benefit the community as a whole and stabilize the tax rate so that our long-term residents and others can continue to stay in town.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

The EDC next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Glen Ohlund

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE February 13, 2007 MEETING.