

Kennebunk Economic Development Committee

Minutes

Thursday – January 6, 2022, 4:30 P.M.

Via Zoom

Attending Members: June Huston (Chair), Maureen Flaherty (Vice Chair), Gary Dugas, Steve Sawyer, and Randy Gates.

Also in attendance: Laura Dolce (KK&A C of C), Chris Osterrieder, P.E. (Director of Community Development), Kortney Nadeau (Selectboard Liaison), Bob Georgitis (KDC & Comp Plan Committee) and Dan Sayre (Budget Board)

Members Absent: None

- 1) Open Meeting by Maureen F. at 4:35 PM.
- 2) Minutes from December 2, 2021 – Motion by Steve S., second by Randy G. – approved as presented – all in favor.
- 3) Public Comments – None.
- 4) TIF Budget
  - a. Presentation of information for Connectivity line item – Steve S. reviewed his connectivity subcommittee update with the board (cell service upgrade and internet upgrade). Will be getting cell phones to check signal strength at 25 points around town.
    - Internet upgrade - \$15,000 for Tilson Tech., Phase 3 of Feasibility Study and \$15,000 for Preti Flaherty for possible legal support, if needed.
    - \$5,000 for Tilson consulting on Downtown Public Wi-Fi.
  - b. Discussed residential tax base vs. commercial tax base, how it has changed over the years and how it might be affected in the future.
  - c. Presentation for Branding line item budget – Maureen F. discussed how the “Branding survey” became more of a “Community survey”, with an abundance of Town information. May employ a consultant to help analyze the information.
    - \$30,000 budget, Maureen will e-mail a bullet point scope of work.
  - d. Discussion on funding a train station location feasibility study.
    - Motion by June H., Second by Steve S. to add \$15,000 to the TIF budget for a train station feasibility study. Approved, all in favor.
  - e. Joel D. asked for a detailed written explanation/justification for each of these TIF budget items.
- 5) Comprehensive plan review as it relates to economic development – Bob G.
  - a. Discussed the Crane Report. Good information/conclusions. Among other information, it lists Kennebunk as a service center.
  - b. Discussed the SEDAP. It should be updated in the next few years.
  - c. Steve S. noted we may get some guidance from the Select Board’s strategic plan.
- 6) Adjourn at 6:01 PM

respectfully submitted: Gary Dugas