

MASTER DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

APRIL 26, 2021

5:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

(DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC THE MEETING WAS HELD VIRTUALLY USING ZOOM)

Members Present: William Renault (WR), Annie Wilton (AW), Frank Twiss (FT), George Dow (GD), Ken Lisiak (KL)

Also Present: Town Administrator Andy Sheehan (AS), Town Moderator Barbara Piselli (BP), Selectman Kosta Prentakis (KP), Town Clerk Ilene Twiss (IT), Firefighter Mike Gonynor, Fire Chief Tom Martinuk, Police Chief William Sampson, COA Director Jillian Smith, Graduate Fellow Taylor Galusha, Fire Captain Doug LeColst

WR called the meeting to order at 5:04PM.

The Committee discussed the schedule or public presentations and meetings. As part of the discussion the Committee discussed WR's "rollup" slide, the disposition of vacated properties, and the bonding and tax impact. Members shared their availability for upcoming meetings and presentations. They also discussed having a table at the Transfer Station on one or more Saturday mornings leading up to the Town Meeting on June 5.

Additional meeting opportunities were mentioned: the Mumblers at Freddy's, the Stream Team, and the former owners of the golf course. It was also agreed to reach out to the ZBA and Conservation Commission and provide them with copies of the infographic and link to the website.

The Committee discussed the debt service graph and agreed it does not quite tell their story. AS agreed to email the debt spreadsheet to the members so they can experiment with alternative graphics. AS will also email the calendar and spreadsheet showing tax rates and average tax bills in area communities. It was agreed that the comparison to Topsfield and Boxford is most applicable.

The Committee discussed the graphic of other public facility projects. FT provided information on projects in Lexington and Rowley. It was agreed to remove the projects for which we do not have square footage or other critical details. TG will update the graphic.

AW had distributed a frequently asked questions (FAQs) documents. AS suggested that AW, TG, and he work on it. Once it is revised he will redistribute it to the Committee and post to the project webpage.

The Committee agreed to meet again on May 3 at 5PM.

The COA Director, Fire Chief, and Police Chief thanked the Committee for the work they are doing to move this project forward and pledged their full support. Jillian Smith noted that the COA is restarting its Thursday lunches and said it would be an opportunity for the Committee to

speak to those present. FT thanked them for joining the meeting and expressed his hope that those departments could use social media and other means to promote the project. The department heads committed to using all resources available.

KL mentioned response time from the new site. Chief Martinuk said he expects no drop off in response times. He offered to take KL on a test drive.

6:17 Meeting adjourned