

Minutes
Economic Planning and Development Committee
Tuesday, April 11, 2017
8:00 AM Pomfret Senior Center

Present: N. Gardner, C. Tracy, W. Hinchman, M. Collins

Guests: None

Call to Order: 8:02 AM.

Approval of Minutes: The February meeting minutes were reviewed and a motion to approve was made by M. Collins and seconded by W. Hinchman. Approved.

Citizens Statements and Petitions: None

Additions to the Agenda: Solar Agreement

New Business:

- 1) Possible presentation by Putnam Economic and Community Development Director, Delpha Very- Due to scheduling conflicts Mrs. Very was unable to attend the meeting. The EPDC discussed options including holding a special meeting as the Pomfret EPDC and Putnam EDC meet at the same time. It was the feeling of the group that a written update on the QV Tech Park from Mrs. Very would be acceptable and appreciated, rather than holding a special meeting.
- 2) Discussion regarding Nora Lane and potential listing agreement- N. Gardner updated the members regarding a request by the First Selectman to look at potential professional realtor services regarding the Murdock Property, as the town has had difficulty marketing the parcel and have worked with both CERC and attempted to work with UConn. N. Gardner set up a meeting with a local commercial realtor from Eastern Connecticut who has experience

with large parcels, solar development and ag development. At the meeting the agent offered a few pieces of advice on marketing strategy and suggested a forest management plan to make the property more attractive to potential users. At a recent BOS meeting discussion was held on the idea of listing with a realtor and feedback showed that if the Town wishes to move forward an RFP for Bids would be the preferred method for contracting with an agent. Some discussion ensued if the RFP was required or not. C. Tracy stated he was concerned about the optics of the situation. EPDC decided it was best to hold off on listing at the current time, until a timber management plan could be explored.

Members then discussed the way a town owned property could be sold, which would include a Town Meeting. W. Hinchman then reviewed the potential permitted uses allowed by current zoning and mentioned that other uses would have to come before P&Z due to the permissive zoning regulations in the town.

The members then discussed requesting the BOS follow through with an RFP for a timber plan. The following motion was made by W. Hinchman and seconded by M. Collins, "EPDC requests that the BOS put together an RFP for a selective timber harvest on the Murdock Property." The motion passed unanimously.

- 3) Solar Agreement- C. Tracy inquired about the status of a potential Tax Agreement regarding the proposed 24 MW solar farm on Woods Hill Road. N. Gardner stated that Bonnie Duncan, the Tax Assessor, did the research on different agreements in place throughout southern New England and that the town has proposed an agreement which is in line with that of other comparable sized projects.

Old Business: None

Citizens Statements and Petitions: None

Adjournment: 8:55 AM

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicholas Gardner
Chairman