

Minutes
Economic Planning and Development Committee
Tuesday, May 8, 2018
8:00 AM Pomfret Senior Center

Present: N. Gardner, C. Tracy, J. Stoddard, W. Hinchman

Guests: First Selectman M. Nicholson

Call to Order: 8:05 AM.

Approval of Minutes: The April meeting minutes were reviewed and a motion to approve was made by C. Tracy and seconded by W. Hinchman. Approved.

Citizens Statements and Petitions: None

Additions to the Agenda: Real Estate Update

Old Business:

- 1) Murdock Property/Selectman's Feedback of RFP for Forestry- The proposed RFP for forestry work is currently being review by Town Attorney Ed Higgins. Additionally, M. Nicholson discussed reopening the RFP for the Solar Array.
- 2) QV Tech Park- The last regional meeting was held in March in Brooklyn. The Town of Putnam has experienced a potential delay in getting the park accepted into the state "Enterprise Zone". Putnam is currently working with Rawson Materials for a gravel extraction deal on the subject parcels. C. Tracey reported on a statewide meeting he attended where the DECD promoted the QV Tech park as a potential model.
- 3) NECCOG Branding Study- We are awaiting details on the branding study from NECCOG and have requested a copy of the Thompson Study for review and mark up. Initial discussions about the study led into a number of discussion points about "What Makes Pomfret Pomfret?" Should we sell our story about open space? Do we have potential to be a community like

Weston? What makes us an ideal residential community? Rather than economic development, should we look to control the budget at the \$10-12MM level?

New Business:

- 1) Town Survey- The members review the recent budget survey data. The cost was minimal at \$70 and some good input was received. A sample related to economic development is presented below.

	Town Budget Survey, selected results							
	Suggestions							
Q26	Comm. Business Growth							
	Support Ag and small business growth							
	Mixed Development							
	Use Murdock Property to Generate Revenue							
Q29	What sources of tax revenue should Pomfret encourage?					131 Responses		
	Improved Commerical Business				65	50%		
	Solar/Renewables				16	12%		
	Ag.				5	4%		
	Tourism				3	2%		
	No Development				4	3%		

- 2) Real Estate Update- It is reported that the former Steakumm's parcel is pending. The former Pete's Drive-In is going to re-open as the "Airline Grille".

Citizens Statements and Petitions: None

Adjournment: 9:05 AM

Respectfully Submitted,
 Nicholas Gardner
 Chairman