

**Jaffrey Economic Development Council
Draft Minutes 9/15/21**

8:00 am Jaffrey Fire Station

Present: Peter Chamberlain, Chair, Dominique Cassie, Cathy Furze, Ed Merrell, Stephanie Porter, Bill Schofield, Mike Shea, Jack Belletete, ExO.

Staff: Jo Anne Carr, Director

Host: David Chamberlain, Jaffrey Fire Chief

1. Update Meeting on TIFDs

Peter reported back on the recent meeting with Planning Board representatives on TIFD operations, specifically the DT TIFD. It appears that questions have been answered regarding funding and budgets. However, it remains apparent that the EDC and TEAM should be doing a better job at communicating activities impacting the Downtown. Discussion turned to the date of the current Economic Development Plan (2007) and need for an update.

2. Lab and Lager

James had emailed photoshopped images as a proposal for minimal clean-up of the building; paint touch up etc. as a way to keep the building from looking derelict and abandoned. After a brief discussion it was decided not to take any action and to remove any posters/materials in the windows.

3. Downtown Revitalization

Mike and Dom have stepped up to be on this committee in addition to Peter and Stephanie. This brings the committee to full membership. A kickoff meeting with VHB will be scheduled after everyone has been sworn in.

The question of maintenance of existing infrastructure downtown was raised. Property owners should be made aware of whatever tax credit programs the Town/State has to offer. Jo Anne will send out info. Again, the need for a master business list would be helpful. Jo Anne has purchased the list of businesses registered with the state. That list doesn't track new businesses and relocations.

Jo Anne distributed the draft CIP for capital investments in the Stone Bridge and Downtown TIFDs – Budgets will be discussed in full at the next meeting.

Regarding any improvements proposed at Community Field, members asked what the status of the lease option for the Community Center stood and whether Warrant Article 24 of 2015 could be rescinded.

4. Road Safety Audit

DOT staff conducted the audit for Old Sharon Road and Route 202. Sightline and speed issues, turning radius dimensions onto Old Sharon Road, striping and lighting were discussed. A draft evaluation should be available in November, allowing for comment from the Town and a final report should be complete by the end of the year. Any significant long-term improvements are likely to be the cost to the Town. DOT evaluates for current conditions and can implement those recommendations. Jo Anne raised the concern for ongoing safety issues a traffic increases on Old Sharon Road, especially as the development on Maria Drive is built out.

5. Other Business/Updates

a) Jack raised the issue of TIFD budgets and the auditor's report from 2020 questioning the Town's process for approvals. Jon Frederick joined the meeting at this point and distributed a series of memos on the issue. Board members suggested taking the matter up in full at the next meeting.