

Jaffrey Economic Development Council
Draft Minutes 11/17/21

8:00 am Jaffrey Fire Station

Present: Peter Chamberlain, Chair, Larry Alvarez, Peter Constant, Cathy Furze, Tim Gordon, Bill Schofield.

Staff: Jo Anne Carr, Director

Host: David Chamberlain, Jaffrey Fire Chief

1. Budgets – Town Manager Review

Jo Anne presented budgets as approved by the EDC to Jon Frederick. He was supportive of your requests and had no changes. TIFD budgets will be presented at Town Meeting as discussed in October. This won't have an impact on our operations, it is a change recommended by the auditors for accounting purposes.

2. Economic Development Plan

Jo Anne presented a working scope of services submitted by the Southwest Region Planning Commission for the economic development chapter of the Master Plan. The scope is heavy on data collection much of which the Planning Commission has access to and can present in an accessible format. Highlighted is the public engagement piece which will incorporate meetings with the Planning Board, EDC, other town committees and the public. The Planning Commission will facilitate the public engagement, surveys, business interviews and assist in developing the action plan. The total cost is estimated to be about \$15,000. Half of which will be paid for through town budget (shared between the EDC and Planning Board), the other half is paid through grants awarded to the Planning Commission by the Northern Border Regional Commission. C. Furze after reading through the existing economic development plan pointed out several areas where it is out of date and in need of a full refresh.

T. Gordon noted that planning documents are very dry and don't necessarily stimulate economic growth. He suggested accessing marketing data to use in support of economic development. There was general consensus on this and Tim offered to present information on what he has access to for marketing data for our next meeting.

Jo Anne is looking for a vote to support the funding for the work under this scope of services and by general consensus, it was approved.

3. Other Business/Updates

- a) Broadband expansion: Jo Anne will be posting to the website and Facebook construction status updates submitted by Consolidated Communications.