

Windham Economic Development Committee
Infrastructure Sub-Committee
Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, March 31, 2015

Approved

PRESENT: Mike Oldenburg, Lisa Walker, Bob Higgins and Ralph Valentine

Call to order at the Windham Comm. Dev. Dept. at 7:36 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance

The minutes of January 14, were approved with 2 amendments on a motion by Bob, second by Mike with a 4-0 vote to approve as amended. The word cellular was inserted in the second sentence of the Telephone Access paragraph, so that it reads "... Verizon cellular service..."; a note was added that the sub-committee (SC) would be inviting Senator Birdsell to our meeting sometime in the summer.

Bob updated the SC on the broadband study which is now available on the Town website. There did not appear to be any ED issues. Service appears to be adequate. There is a hi-speed fiber line running along Route 111 is not getting much promotion. Bob will follow up with some research on whether or not this line gives Windham any kind of competitive advantage in Economic Development.

Electricity is an issue in town, in terms of reliability, availability for future development and cost. Ralph will connect with the Energy Committee re: collaborating about these issues. Maybe a joint meeting with Energy can be scheduled and invite Eversource to speak.

Ralph reported that the waterline extension to the intersection of Route 111 and 128 is moving ahead. Construction likely to start in 2016. Pennichuck is working on the engineering. Pennichuck has confirmed that the line will be a 12" line, up to the intersection and around the corner to serve Braemar Woods.

Bob updated the SC on Market Square. The EDC Market Square SC is working hard to craft a warrant article for March 2016. Bob did speak to a major developer about the project. That contact said in some cases, a zoning change does not help. The contact also said municipal water and sewer was not necessarily a requirement, but there were many factors to determine if this infrastructure is critical, economics being a major factor.

Ralph brought up a recent Tribune article about MTBE in wells. DES is expanding MRBE well testing in several NH communities, including 268 households Windham. Mike will investigate where these homes are and report back to the SC.

Next Meeting: Wednesday April 22, 2015 at 7:30 AM

Motion to adjourn at 9:05 AM by Bob, second by Mike, motion passed 4-0-0.

Ralph Valentine