

MINUTES
**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS/
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**
Meeting of Thursday, February 16, 2023 – 12 p.m.
Conference Room A, Gorham Municipal Center

Present: Councilor Suzanne Phillips, Committee Chair, and Councilors Phillip Gagnon and Virginia Wilder Cross.

Also Present: Town Manager Ephrem Paraschak.

1. Consideration of the minutes of the January 26, 2023 meeting.

A motion was MADE by Councilor Gagnon, SECONDED by Councilor Wilder Cross, and VOTED to accept the minutes of the January 26, 2023 meeting. Unanimous vote.

2. Current Business

A. Review status of Capital Part II projects from Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

Town Manager Ephrem Paraschak briefly discussed various Capital Part II projects. Mr. Paraschak said he will have definite details for the committee's review at the next meeting.

B. Update from Economic Development Director, Kevin Jenson, regarding Economic Development.

Economic Development Director Kevin Jensen advised the committee on items pertaining to the Industrial Park, grant programs, as well as the results of the Gorham Economic Development Corporation (GEDC) survey, and options for Summer Thursdays.

C. Explore current and future economic development programs, and review current programs, or initiatives that various Town departments currently undertake (referred on February 7, 2023).

A lengthy general discussion ensued regarding the vision for the downtown, ways to spur economic development in our villages, future planning, and how Town ordinances put our vision for the community into place.

A discussion was held regarding the need for a vision or plan for the downtown village, and that the Council as a whole should also have this discussion with regard to Town Council goals (which has not yet happened). The committee added that ongoing discussions should take place with the Economic Development Director regarding plans, ideas, current programs, grants, etc. at future meetings.

3. Other Business

- A. Provide a framework for the review and possible revisions to the Chick Master Plan and report back to the Town Council with a recommendation (referred on December 6, 2022)

Staff advised that updated plans should be available for review and discussion, so the committee can put the process discussed in place with a timeline.

4. Schedule next meeting and discuss agenda items for next meeting.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 12pm in Conference Room. The following agenda items will discussed:

- A. Review status of Capital Part II projects from Fiscal Year 2021-2022.
- B. Explore current and future economic development programs, and review current programs, or initiatives that various Town departments currently undertake (referred on February 7, 2023)
- C. Provide a framework for the review and possible revisions to the Chick Master Plan and report back to the Town Council with a recommendation (referred on December 6, 2022)

5. Adjourn.

There being no further business, a motion was MADE by Councilor Wilder Cross and SECONDED by Councilor Gagnon and VOTED to adjourn. Time of adjournment: 1:22pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Hughes, Executive Assistant