

Town of Westminster

MASSACHUSETTS 01473 FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Phone: (978) 874-7414

Economic Development Committee (EDC) – Meeting Minutes for March 5, 2014

Members Present: Richelle Brown, Jeff Crowley, John Fairbanks, Ralph LeBlanc, Joe Serio

Others Present: Steve Wallace, Town Planner

Members Absent: Scott Aubuchon

Meeting called to order at 7:07 PM by Chairman Joe Serio

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the February 12th meeting. Jeff Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, and Ralph LeBlanc seconded. The motion passed 3 to 0 with one abstention.

Next, the committee reviewed the economic implications of the draft Wachusett Corridor Smart Growth Plan (WCSGP). About 40 percent of the Wachusett Station "area" is in Westminster. The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission (MRPC) meets monthly to discuss this subject, and Steve Wallace attends these meetings. <u>Action</u>: Steve Wallace will write a letter with our recommendations and will send it to MRPC.

The committee then discussed the draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Montachusett Region as prepared by MRPC. Steve informed the committee that MRPC updates their plan every five years. In turn the Federal Economic Development Commission reviews and approves it.

Steve Wallace summarized the EDC work program for 2014:

- EDC brochure; Steve will develop two slides for the Annual Town Meeting in May.
- In June 2014 the Committee will take the name of the Top 20 businesses from the Worcester Business Journal to recruit them for Westminster.
- Hold a Town Economic Development Forum in the fall.

The Committee reviewed and approved for the Chairman's signature a letter of support for the DPW Sewer Plan. Jeff Crowley made a motion to approve the draft letter as presented, and Ralph LeBlanc seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The EDC will meet next on Wednesday, April 2nd at 7:00 PM.

Motion was made by Jeff Crowley and seconded by Richelle Brown to adjourn the meeting. Vote was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Submitted by:

JOHN F. FAIRBANKS EDC Clerk-Secretary