Town Center Committee

Minutes for the Meeting of February 19, 2021

This meeting was held via the Zoom software program, with each participant and guest remaining at home or in their offices

Present: Nelson Disco, Bill Cummings, Bill Wilkes, Matt Shevenell, Kyle Fox, and Karen Freed. Absent; Finlay Rothhaus.

Guests: Nicholas Lavallee

Minute Taker: Nelson Disco

December 4, 2020 Minutes

The Minutes of the TCC meeting of January 15 were approved on a motion by Bill Cummings seconded by Kyle Fox by a vote of 6-0. Because this was an electronic meeting, a roll-call vote was required which is recorded as follows: Bill Cummings, aye; Nelson Disco, aye; Karen Freed, aye; Bill Wilkes, aye; Matt Shevenell, aye; Kyle Fox, aye and Finlay Rothhaus abstained.

Old Business Discussions:

- **4a**. A draft letter of support for the Town 275th Committee to construct a covered bridge over the bridges in the Twin Bridge Park was presented by Mr. Disco. The committee approved sending the letter on behalf of the Committee.
- **4b.** No change to the status of the Souhegan River footbridge. (In next NHDOT Ten Year Plan) Kyle mentioned that a DOT representative at the 10 year planning committee had expressed objection to utilizing the FEET in removing or replacing the footbridge.
- **5c**. Souhegan River Trail; The NHDOT still has concerns regarding the disturbance of former wetlands by the trail crossing. The Merrimack Conservation Commission has proposed three possible locations for mitigation sites. NHDOT and DES are considering these proposals. DPW still hopes to be able to advertise for construction in August 2021.
- **5d.** Woodbury Street survey work is now complete. Kyle has advised the Town Manager that widening Woodbury Street for additional parking cannot be accommodated within the present budget. DPW will proceed with the sidewalk without additional parking. Sidewalk design is proceeding with inhouse engineering.

- **5e.** High School Master Traffic Plan is still on hold until spring.
- **5f.** Through the efforts of Nicholas Lavallee the TCC has now launched it's own Facebook Page on the Merrimack web site. Nelson reported that he had viewed the page and found it very interesting and favorable to the TCC. He urged other committee members to view the site. Nicholas reported that he would like to make frequent inputs to the Facebook Page and asked members to consider additional material. In the first couple of days we have got 139 "followers" and 92 "likes" on our page so far.

New Business

- **a.** There seems to be no TCC Members who wish to become Chair or Vice Chair of the TC Committee.
- **b.** Nelson reported that the Merrimack Town Council has deleted the new sidewalk construction from the 2021-2022 Planned Budget. This had been planned at \$200K as of last year. He has expressed his disappointment to the Council via email and testimony at the Public Hearing. Kyle Fox explained that the Town Council was becoming concerned with the future outlook for the Town Budget in light of the Covid caused loss of State revenue.

Public Comments

There were no public comments received at this meeting.

Next Meeting – There was discussion on when and where to hold our next TCC Meeting. April 16 seemed to be an appropriate date. Suggestion was made to perhaps hold the meeting as a Ground Breaking for 16 April 2021 – weather factors and availability of video coverage was discussed as well as Zoom availability. It was left to the Chairman to resolve as the date drew nearer.

Adjournment – Bill Cummings moved and Kyle Fox seconded to adjourn at 1:15 pm. Approved 6-0. Roll call Vote not taken, all were in favor: