

**Economic Development Committee  
Minutes of April 5, 2016  
Town Manager's Conference Room, Town Hall**

**Present:** Alison Hughes, Tony Archinski, Jesse Forcier, Frank Antifonario, Jim Duggan, Town Manager, Betsy Ware, Community Development Director and Recording Secretary Shannon Rowe

Mrs. Hughes opened the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Jay Donovan, NMCOG – Dracut Economic Development Plan

Mr. Donovan appeared before the Board and presented the “draft” Dracut Economic Development Strategy dated April 2016. Mr. Donovan stated that he made updates based on the comments from the Committee at their last meeting. Mr. Donovan reviewed the Table of Contents and discussed the following updates:

- \* Page 23, Figure 4: Total Number of Establishments in Dracut, 2004-2014
- \* Page 27, Location Quotients
- \* Page 28, Figure 7: Local-Regional Location Quotient by Industry in 2014
- \* Page 29, Table 24: Economic Statistics for Goods-Producing Industries in 2014
- \* Page 30, Table 25: Economic Statistics for Service-Providing Industries in 2014

Mr. Donovan discussing starting to put together the overall strategies that fit within the Communities.

- \* Page 34, Table 27: Fiscal Year 2016 Tax Rates by Class for the Greater Lowell Region
- \* Page 35, Table 28: Fiscal Year 2015 Tax Classification and Figure 8: Municipal Revenue Sources, Comparing FY2010 & 2016
- \* Appendix C: Major Employers with over 25 employees
- \* Page 50, Dracut Water District Fee Structures
- \* Page 69, Table 45: Potential Development Site
- \* Pages 73, Table 46: Sites Recently Developed

The Committee discussed four recently developed sites. Mr. Donovan stated that they could add information of what happened on the recently developed sites and additional potential sites as well.

The Committee agreed to move 625A Broadway Road and 1905 Lakeview Avenue back to potential development sites.

- \* Page 86, Appendix SWOT Results

Mr. Donovan reviewed his Memorandum dated November 25, 2013 and discussed adding the information into the Executive Summary.

(Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2016)

Mrs. Hughes discussed adding success stories once the projects are completed in the Plan.

Mr. Duggan discussed the recent rezoning at Brox Industries.

Mr. Donovan discussed Industrial 1 and Industrial 2 zoning located on Page 57 of the Plan.

Mr. Duggan discussed the amount of Commercial permits from 2008-2011.

Mr. Donovan stated that he would add the number of permits from 2013-2015 to the Plan as well.

The Committee agreed that the document looks great. Mr. Donovan stated that once the document is final it would need to be adopted by the Board of Selectmen.

Mrs. Hughes stated that Appendix C needs to be completed before the Plan goes to the Board of Selectmen.

The Committee discussed the biggest employers in Dracut. Mr. Donovan discussed listing the top 10 employers in the Plan.

#### Betsy Ware, Community Development Director – Updated Business List

Ms. Ware presented and reviewed the updated business list with the Committee.

Mr. Duggan discussed receiving contact information from business's, etc., and listing the information on the Town's website, if the business wants, with a category option.

#### New Business

Ms. Sandra Smart, 4 Hazelwood Ave, appeared before the Board and discussed GE moving into the Boston area and partnering with their employees. Ms. Smart discussed GE constructing research facilities and their employees living here, etc.

Mr. Duggan stated that he is more than happy to listen to any ideas and discussed the infrastructure on Broadway Road not being able to handle traffic for an industrial area. Mr. Duggan discussed using Route 110 as it can handle traffic and is already industrial zoned.

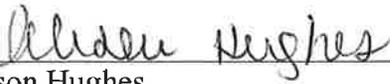
The Committee discussed areas available for businesses and what type of businesses would be available.

The next meeting was scheduled for May 23, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion made by Mr. Archinski to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. Forcier. Motion passed unanimously.

(Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2016)

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alison Hughes

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Archinski

\_\_\_\_\_  
Frank Antifonario

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jesse Norcier