

Middletown Economic Development Advisory Committee

Wednesday, January 13, 2016, 4:30 pm
Middletown Town Hall, Town Council Chambers

Members Present:

John Bagwill
Nick Coogan
Joseph A. Cirillo
Liana Ferreira Fenton
David Lepore
Robert M. Silva, Chairman
Barbara VonVillas, Town Council
Ron Wolanski, Town Planner

Members absent:

Erin Donovan-Boyle
Rocky Kempenaar
Tom Kowalczyk

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Silva at 4:35pm

1. Approval of the minutes of the November 12, 2015 MEDAC meeting.

Motion by Ms. Fenton, seconded Mr. Cirillo, to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2015 meeting. **Vote:** 8-0-0.

2. Review of the town's economic development incentive ordinance.

Mr. Wolanski stated that the Tax Assessor had recently requested that consideration be given to revising the town's tax incentive program, particularly regarding the added incentive offered to companies that create jobs with salaries exceeding \$35,000. The suggestion is that the salary level be increased.

There was general agreement that the salary level is too low. There may be other opportunities to improve the program as well. Mr. Wolanski was asked to provide examples of incentive programs from other communities, and to provide a list of the businesses in Middletown that currently take advantage of the tax incentive program.

3. Continued discussion of potential establishment of a business improvement district in the Atlantic Beach District, and potential projects.

There was continued discussion of the possibility of the town facilitating establishment of the BID in the Atlantic Beach District, with initial focus on beautification and marketing opportunities in the area. Mr. Wolanski provided information on the Thayer Street Management District Authority as an example of a district with a similar scope of effort.

The consensus of the committee was that there should be a gathering of business owners in the area of the potential district in order to gauge the level of interest. Prior to such a meeting a package of information must be prepared to describe the

proposal, including potential organizational structure and example projects and budgets.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted
Ronald M. Wolanski, Town Planner