

Middletown Economic Development Advisory Committee

Wednesday, November 9, 2016, 4:30 pm
Middletown Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Members Present:

John Bagwill
Joseph A. Cirillo, Vice Chair
Liana Ferreira Fenton
Tom Kowalczyk
David Lepore
Robert M. Silva, Chairman
Barbara VonVillas, Town Council Liaison
Ron Wolanski, Town Planner

Members absent:

Nick Coogan
Erin Donovan-Boyle

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Silva at 4:30pm

1. Approval of the minutes of the September 14, 2016 and October 12, 2016 MEDAC meetings.

Motion Mr. Cirillo, seconded by Ms. Fenton, to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2016 and October 12, 2016 MEDAC meetings.

2. Discussion of potential opportunities to pursue undergrounding of utilities in the Atlantic Beach District.

Mr. Bagwill discussed recent conversations he, Mr. Silva, and Mr. Wolanski have had with representatives of local non-profit organizations regarding potential opportunities for funding and logistics of installing underground utilities in the Atlantic Beach District. Mr. Bagwill suggested that the area be referred to as the Atlantic Beach Gateway District.

There was discussion of the potential to secure potential private foundation funding, but the town must first demonstrate its interest in the project. It was noted that coordination with future state roadway work in the area is an import selling point.

There was discussion of the need to develop visuals in order to present the idea to the Town Council and other potential stakeholders. The visuals would depict hoe the area might look once the utility lines are relocated underground.

Town Administrator, Shawn Brown, stated that the town has budgeted \$150,000 to fund design work related to roadway infrastructure improvements. A portion of that funding could be used to create the initial graphics and evaluate that feasibility of the undergrounding project.

It was decided that Mr. Brown and Mr. Wolanski will create a preliminary budget for the initial feasibility and graphics work for discussion during the next MEDAC meeting.

Due to the time, Mr. Silva requested that the remaining agenda items be considered during the December 14, 2016 meeting. There were no objections.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted
Ronald M. Wolanski, Town Planner

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