

**Middletown Economic Development Advisory Committee
Minutes of Wednesday, January 10, 2018, 4:30 pm
Middletown Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room**

Members Present:

Robert Silva
Rita Lavoie
Tom Kowalczyk
John Bagwill
Joseph A. Cirillo
David Lepore
Nicholas Coogan
Liana Ferreira-Fenton
Dennis Turano

Members absent:

Erin Donovan-Boyle
Barbara VonVillas
Ronald Wolanski

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

1. Update on status of regional economic development efforts.

- a. Mr. Silva provided an update on economic development activities including housing, Navy activities, and incentives. He noted that representatives from Fourth Economy would join the meeting at 5:15pm to provide further details.

2. Approval of the minutes of the November 8, 2017 MEDAC meeting

- a. Motion by Mr. Cirillo, seconded by Ms. Ferreira-Fenton to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2017 MEDAC meeting with amendments by Mr. Bagwill. Vote 9-0-0.

3. Continued discussion of potential revisions to the town's economic development tax incentive ordinance.

- a. Motion by Mr. Kowalczyk, seconded by Ms. Ferreira-Fenton to forward the draft to the town council.
- b. There was discussion regarding the previous review of the draft by the Town Planner and the Town Tax Assessor and presenting the draft to the Town Council.
- c. Vote: 9-0-0

4. Update on status of Atlantic Beach District roadway design improvements.

- a. Ms. Lavoie provided an update on the progress of the TIF and Atlantic Beach District design projects and invited MEDAC to attend an upcoming Town Council meeting scheduled to review the designs with the consultant.

5. Introduction of Forth Economy.

- a. Mr. Rich Overmoyer and Ms. Chelsea Burket of Fourth Economy introduced themselves and provided an overview of their role with regional economic development.
 - i. They indicated that Fourth Economy was hired to work with all towns in Newport County plus Bristol, RI. They mentioned the desire to identify partners, trade associations, and build relationships with the state to encourage regional economic development.
 - ii. Mr. Overmoyer reviewed a timeline of initiatives and the hiring process of a dedicated staff person to work with the region.
 - iii. There was discussion regarding Fourth Economy's return visit in February and the desire to set up meetings with key Town stakeholders.

6. Adjourn

By consensus the meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm

Respectfully submitted:
Rita Lavoie, Principal Planner