

**Middletown Economic Development Advisory Committee  
Minutes of June 7, 2018, 4:30 pm  
Middletown Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room**

**Members Present:**

John Bagwill  
Erin Donovan-Boyle  
Liana Ferreira-Fenton  
Tom Kowalczyk  
Robert Silva, Chairman  
Barbara VonVillas  
Ronald Wolanski

**Members absent:**

Joseph A. Cirillo  
Nicholas Coogan  
David Lepore  
Dennis Turano

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

**1. Approval of the minutes of the May 9, 2018 MEDAC meeting.**

Motion by Mr. Kowalczyk, seconded by Ms. Fenton, to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2018 meeting. Vote 7-0-0.

**2. Update on status of regional economic development efforts.**

Rich Overmoyer and Ashley Medeiros of Fourth Economy and Connect Greater Newport were in attendance to introduce themselves to the committee and discuss recent progress and upcoming efforts. Ms. Medeiros has been hired to serve as the point person for the regional economic development effort, which will be housed within the Chamber of Commerce. Initial work will include meeting with businesses in the region to learn of their needs.

**3. Discussion of possible banners and other promotional efforts for the Two-mile Corner Area.**

Mr. Wolanski stated that he had invited Mr. Rodrigues to attend an upcoming meeting to discuss his ideas. This item will be placed on an upcoming agenda based on Mr. Rodrigues' availability.

**4. Update on status of tax increment finance (TIF) discussion.**

The committee discussed the current status of legislation regarding TIF. Two bills are of interest. The first is the bill that would eliminate the requirement for towns to create a redevelopment agency in order to create a TIF district (H7556), and the second would allow the Town of Middletown to use Dec. 31, 2016 as the base assessment date for any TIF created in 2018 (H8218). Staff will be tracking these bills.

**5. Update on status of Atlantic Beach District roadway improvements design contract. Recap of Town Council's June 4th meeting.**

Mr. Wolanski stated that the Town Council received recommendations from the Planning Board (memo to the Town Council dated May 21, 2018), and voted to authorize the town's consultant to proceed to complete the 30% design plans. The authorization included expanding the project scope to include the segment of roadway between Purgatory Rd. and the Newport line, as well as Wave Ave. It is anticipated that the 30% plans will be completed in the Fall.

There was discussion of the need to get cost estimates for the proposed undergrounding of utilities, which could be accomplished at the time of road reconstruction. Mr. Silva stated that he will make a call to an official at National Grid to request assistance in completing cost estimates.

**6. Next meeting July 11, 2018, 4:30pm**

**7. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20pm**

Respectfully submitted:  
Ron Wolanski, Town Planner