

GOSHEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING – MINUTES

MARCH 28, 2022 6 – 7:00 PM

In Person and Zoom

**PRESENT:** Todd Carusillo, Peter Kujawski (alternate), Scott Olson, William Commerford, Dr. Jeff Damiano (Alternate), Anne Green, Heidi Koenig. **GUEST:** Carl Contadini, Amy Tobin (GBC) 16 North Street, Tom Borden (DOT Engineer, Retired) 6 Belshire Court, Richard Weigold **ZOOM –** Cindy Barrett  
**ABSENT:** Clint Thorn

**CALL TO ORDER:** Scott Olson called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion made by Anne Green and seconded by Heidi Koenig to approve February 28, 2022 minutes. It was voted to accept the motion. Motion carries.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Scott mentioned, as per last month's meeting, that anyone in attendance with questions can interject at any time as the meeting progresses. No comments at this time.

**WELCOME TO WEIGOLD'S (NORTHERN FARM AND FORESTRY, LLC):** Scott welcomed Richard Weigold to the meeting. Discussion continued on the process of establishing a year round farm store. Richard has not yet made application. Last month Scott had stated that the application was in progress in error. This is due to no regulations within the land use office that allows for this (year round farm store). The property he is on is residential agricultural, not center business owned. Richard wrote up a proposal that would allow for this, and define for the entire town such a business. Some P&Z commissioners were not in agreement. They have not had a meeting on this yet. There are some concerns from the Ag Council surrounding the proposal and a year round farm store specific to Richard's proposal. There will be a special meeting with the Ag council next week. This meeting is not about Richard's farm store; it will allow feedback regarding how the council feels about anyone making application for a business of this type. If written into the regulations, it would then allow Richard to make his application. EDC will be on the agenda to give input and to advocate for establishing such regulations. P&Z would like to address these questions prior to moving forward.

**OLD BUSINESS: 1. Welcome to Goshen Signs and how to fund them**- the plan is to have four signs – one at each end of Rt. 4 and Rt. 63. They are to be high quality signs and would say Welcome to Goshen, Land of Milk and Honey and would be nicely landscaped. The cost for these run from \$2,000 to \$5,000 per sign, including installation (some savings for purchasing 4 signs and installing ourselves). The total cost could be \$20,000. The signs would be on private vs state property. These signs would not affect current individual Goshen signs. Scott explored the commission raising funds for this, but found out that as a town entity it was not allowed. Question was raised to explore another pro business entity and Amy (GBC) was asked if they could do that. Amy stated that they did raise money for flags and that the decision could be addressed at a meeting. Scott asked Amy to put it on the agenda for their next meeting (4-18-22 @ 6:30 pm). Amy agreed.

Scott also discussed Business signs and 2 proposals from EDC with P&Z last meeting. A portion of the proposal addressed - can business people increase their commercial signs? It was suggested that Anne could send out a questionnaire to all businesses in Goshen for their input. Scott will research surrounding towns and what they allow (commercial signs). \*Special EDC meeting set for Wed. 4-13-22

at 6 pm (tentative), zoom and in person to discuss commercial signs, and present at next P&Z meeting (4-26-22).

**2. Setting a Date for a special meeting with GBC for improving the rotary-** Amy (GBC) spoke about re-structure of the traffic circle (junction of 4 & 63). DOT will cover the cost of a new traffic circle. If we wanted something other than what is proposed, then we would be responsible for that cost. The DOT would design a more modern traffic circle, which will slow down the traffic from the North. There have been a lot of safety concerns and there have been some recent accidents at the rotary. Todd will meet with DOT to discuss, there will also be some public sessions and it will be up to the community to decide. \* No special meeting needed at this point, per Amy. Tom Borden retired DOT engineer gave an overview of the process. The DOT will contact Todd to come up with a proposal, the Board of Selectman will be involved and there would be some public informational meetings. DOT would request a letter of support from the Board of Selectman. If there was community support, next would be a formal public hearing to discuss the design process and final design. Next it would be advertised for construction.

**3. EDC Commissioners speaking at P&Z public hearings:** Last meeting it was discussed that it is customary for EDC to go to public hearings with P&Z to show support. Marty Conner gave his response in writing to Scott concerning this and said that Commissioners should attend when there is an application about a new business. Peter was concerned that it might appear like favoritism with individual applicants. Heidi expressed concern that if we attend for one, we must attend for all. Scott asked for a motion to allow members to go before P&Z and advocate for business applications that they feel are appropriate. **Absent motion** – policy of EDC – we will not, as commissioner's advocate for a business when they have an application during a public hearing.

**NEW BUSINESS: Goshen Economic Commission Goals and Objectives document:** Document attached. Scott requested a motion to have above document part of the agenda. **Motion** by Anne Green and seconded by Peter Kujawski. Scott brought it to our attention, as it has been referenced several times in conversation and on the GBC agenda. The document needs updating and should be reviewed by all prior to next meeting. Discussion on call for formation of sub committees and freedom of information should be reviewed as well. Per Scott it will be tabled until next meeting.

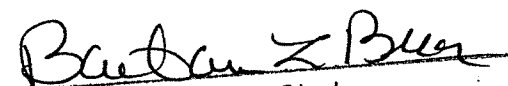
**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM in a motion by Anne Green and seconded by Peter Kujawski .

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

MARIE BATE



COMMISSION CLERK

Received March 31, 2022 @ 1:20 P.M  
Attest   
Goshen Town Clerk