

**Downtown TIF Advisory Committee
153 Farmington Falls Road
May 10, 2017 6:00 p.m.**

Minutes

TIF Committee members present were Richard Davis, Alison Hagerstrom, Byron Davis, Joshua Bell, John Moore, Jennifer Bjorn, and Cindy Gelinias. Paul Mills, Gary Edwards, Mike Mansir, Cindi Ferguson, Ron Gelinias, and Kevin Madore were unable to attend.

Mrs. Hagerstrom called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

ITEM 1: To Approve the Minutes of the January 18, 2017 Meeting

The members acknowledged the minutes and will keep them on file.

ITEM 2: To Review the Status of the Security Camera Project

Mr. R. Davis said he has been in contact with Tiffany Maiuri, Crisis Management Team Liaison Officer for the University of Maine at Farmington (UMF), who said the security camera project has been sent back to the central headquarters in Orono. He said they are collecting additional information from the vendors.

Mr. B. Davis asked if the central server would be located at the Orono campus.

Mr. R. Davis said it is an internet hosted security system that would allow the central server to be based anywhere, and we should be able to access it online.

Mr. Moore suggested contacting the Skowhegan town manager to ask if their system is still working well and request any feedback.

ITEM 3: To Review the Status of the West Farmington Parking and Pedestrian Improvements Project

Mr. R. Davis said this project will take up most of the \$100,000 allocated for this year. He said there are three CMP poles that need to be relocated in order to install the sidewalks. Mr. R. Davis said he is waiting to hear back from them regarding any charges to relocate the poles. He said the bases for the four decorative street lights were included in the \$79,000 estimate, but not the lights themselves, and this could increase the cost by \$6,000 to \$8,000. Mr. R. Davis said it should be ready to go out to bid in late July or August, and if the bids come back at the same time as we are deciding the tax commitment, we would have a better idea of the cost.

Mr. B. Davis asked about the proposed bathroom on Church Street.

Mr. R. Davis said at the last meeting they discussed installing a porta potty, and he hasn't pursued it.

Discussion followed regarding extending the sidewalk down to Walton's Mill Dam Park.

ITEM 4: To Consider Recommending to the Selectmen that the Town Negotiate a Lease of 6 or 7 Parking spaces in the County-owned lot at the Corner of Main and Church Streets

Mr. R. Davis said he spoke with Franklin County Commissioner, Charlie Webster, about the parking spaces and he seemed open to the idea, and he mentioned to Mr. Webster a price of \$2,500 per year per space or a 99-year lease. Mr. R. Davis stated there is still a question of if the lease would be paid for through the Downtown TIF, and then what happens when the TIF ends. He said he can take it to the Selectmen to see if they will authorize us to negotiate with the Commissioners. Mr. R. Davis said it is a difficult location to mix public and private parking along with designating the spaces and regulating the usage. He said he thought it was a little pricey.

Discussion followed regarding parking signage and bans during the winter.

Mr. Moore asked about negotiating a spot for a bathroom next to the Franklin County Courthouse retaining wall nearest to Main Street.

Mr. R. Davis said we would spend approximately \$100,000 to do it right and designed so it fits right in on Main Street. He said we could install a security camera so it deters vandalism. Mr. R. Davis said we need to decide if our priority is a bathroom or parking spaces.

Discussion followed regarding other bathroom locations, and usage of the Anson Street and Church Street parking lots.

Mr. R. Davis said we can keep this on the list to revisit later.

ITEM 5: To Discuss Other Business

Mrs. Gelinis said she will send out a Doodle Poll for the next meeting in September.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cindy Gelinis, Planning Assistant.