

***Town of York ~ Village Revitalization Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes ~ February 15, 2018
York Public Library ~ Wheeler Room***

Present: Stu Dawson, Brent Drennan, Mike Estes, Chris Hartwell, Dean Lessard, Bill Lord, Pete Smith, Ron McAllister, Dylan Smith

Absent: Stephen Carr, Toni DeSoto, Dan Poulin, Don Rose

Guest: Leah Drennan

1. Chris Hartwell called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.
2. Meeting minutes for January 18th were approved with one minor correction.
3. Dean reported that he submitted his proposed parking space revisions to Regina so that they can apply them wherever possible to the design plan. As a result, he hopes to be able to report to the selectmen that, not only are we not losing any spaces but, we are actually gaining some.
4. The group discussed several issues regarding the integration of parking spaces, vehicle lanes, bicycle lanes, and sidewalks within the central village area and westward to Lindsay Road. Dean agreed to review some of these issues with the traffic engineers and the design team.
5. Dean described how he had looked back to the original plans and estimates for underground utilities and found one that contained some rough cost estimates by foot of completed installation. The material cost alone for one thousand feet of conduit would be \$126,000, but there would be a lot of additional costs involved in completing the installation.
6. Mike's advice is to bring a total cost number to the selectmen for inclusion in a referendum ballot.
7. The Town Manager told Chris that a multi-million dollar proposal for underground utilities would be a non-starter until the town hall project has been successfully addressed. Further, he wants to be assured that doing underground utilities won't unreasonable extend the village revitalization project time frame. He also wants more details on what information the utilities need from the town to set up accounts and where the funds to support the accounts would come from.
8. The next available opportunity to get something onto the ballot for voter approval will be the May, 2019 election. We need to start working on capital planning issues and make progress soon in order to meet the lead-in timeline for that date. Dean noted that if we want to be ready with a plan that can be part of the 2019 Capital Plan in July or August, then we need to be on a selectmen's agenda in March or early April.
9. Committee members feel like they are confronted with a "chicken or egg" situation. We need the selectmen to approve setting up and funding the utility accounts so the we can get estimates from the utilities, but to do that, the selectmen need us to define the project size and cost. In order for us to do that, we need estimates from the utility companies, which we can't get without setting up the accounts.
10. Dylan proposed that the first thing we should do is complete a site walk of the entire project area to get a solid visual preference of what the committee members agree as the boundaries of the area within the overall project area that should have underground utilities. Dylan will schedule the walk.
11. Brent suggested that we should try to have informal discussions with as many of the stakeholders as possible prior to putting the underground utility project proposal on their agenda. This includes the town manager, selectmen, capital planning committee , budget committee.

12. Brent also proposed setting up a place on the web that we could keep our documents for members to share, such as Drop Box or Google Share. There is a question of legality and appropriateness of doing so. Dylan suggested checking with Brett Hoar, and Mike noted that we can get an opinion from MMA.
13. The group discussed potential ongoing negotiations with the hospital regarding land next to the fire station apron which would provide several additional municipal parking spaces. The hospital is hoping that an amendment of the Hospital Overlay Zone and the town's release of 200 feet of Williams Street will be put on May's ballot.
14. Our next regular meeting will be at 10:00am on Thursday, March 15th at the York Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at 11:39am

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Smith, Secretary