Hillsborough EDC Meeting Minutes for December 28, 2017

**Present:** Jane Williams, Jack Wells, Laura Buono, Jon Daley, Robyn Payson, Robert Hassett, Susanne White, Guests – Joyce Bosse, Leigh Bosse, Peter Mellen

**Meeting called to order at 9:03 am by Jane Williams**

**Minutes from 11/2/2017 Meeting –** Doug Hatfield made a motion to approve the minutes from the 11/2/2017 meeting, Jack Wells seconded and them motion carried unanimously.

**Proposed Purchase by the Town on 10 West Main Street for Parking Lot**

Leigh Bosse spoke regarding the potential for the Town to purchase the property at 10 West Main Street. Asking price for the property is $200,000 and another estimated $100,000 to raze the building and create a parking lot. Plans, created by Peter Mellen, were presented that would provide for 18 spaces. Conversations followed regarding the logistics of moving the building as opposed to demolishing it, asking price vs. assessed value, and potential cost vs. benefit to tax payers. Leigh and Joyce Bosse concluded by asking for EDC support in urging the selectmen to add this to the ballot to see if tax payers would support it.

**Warrant Article – Exemption from Property Taxes for Commercial and Industrial**

Robyn Payson explained that if the Town adopts RSA 7281, it would provide incentive to commercial and industrial property owners to make improvements since it would give the Town the ability to phase in any new taxes on these properties once improvements are made. A warrant article would need to be done to enable this to be used. She also clarified that this is different and less rigorous than 79E.

**Town Administrator’s Update**

Laura Buono reported that the budget is looking good so far – possible 1.5% increase, but it’s not finished yet and the Selectmen will have final review.

**Planning Department Update**

Robyn Payson reported that:

* **Village Residential Zoning -** Currently, personal services and retail are prohibited, but it’s being proposed to have them be allowed by special exception.
* **Aquifer Protection Ordinance –** has been introduced and is in the beginning stages.

**Superintendent of Schools Report**

Robert Hassett reported that:

* Taco Beyondo and another town resident made generous donations to pay off unpaid school lunch accounts!
* McDonald’s donated $3100 to the Elementary School Playground Project
* Holiday concerts at MS & HS were fabulous and the national Honor Society ran an event with Santa.
* Storify remains a great resource for parents and community members to stay updated about the school happenings.
* Budget – Warrant article for a truck that is needed
* Turner Construction drafted a design for altering the entrance to the Elementary School

**Miscellaneous –** Robyn Payson discussed Robyn LeBlanc and her work with the Vibrant Villages Program. Robyn Payson will work to schedule a time for the EDC to meet with her for help in developing a focused, tangible, overall plan for moving forward with revitalization efforts.

Jane Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10, Doug Hatfield seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda Blevens, Secretary