

**MEETING OF THE PEQUOT LAKES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2024 (DRAFT)**

Members Present: Commission Members Mark Hallan, Michelle Lelwica, and Sheila Holley (at 8:07am)

Members Absent: Commission Chair Matt Lottman; Commission Member Bradley Becklin

Others Present: Traci Pederson: Zoning Administrator, Scott Pederson: EDC Council Liaison, Kurt Stumpf, Tyler Glynn,

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Commission Member Lelwica at 8:06 a.m. The meeting began as informational due to due to lack of quorum, but within moments of starting the meeting, Commission Holley arrived.

2. Consider Agenda

No changes.

COMMISSION HALLAN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS IS. COMMISSION HOLLEY SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

3. Approve EDC Minutes

COMMISSION HALLAN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE EDC MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 19, 2024. COMMISSION HOLLEY SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

4. Public Works: Snow Removal Discussion

Commission Lelwica reported on the informal snow removal bids from companies she had reached out to, in order to start the conversation:

- Six companies were contacted; four declined, one did not respond, and one submitted a bid.
- This bid was \$1,800 per snow event. This bid was based on the map provided by Public Works Supervisor, Nick Roy

Challenges discussed included:

- Early morning removal (3:30 AM) could lead to remaining snow if the event is ongoing.
- Potential conflicts with businesses already paying for snow removal.
- Coordination with city plows to avoid re-depositing snow on cleared sidewalks.
- Defining the trigger point for snow removal (e.g., 2 or 3 inches).

Mark Hallan suggested the city public works department should meet with TruGreen (provided the estimate bid) to discuss details and potentially develop a trial period.

COMMISSION HALLAN MOTIONED FOR COUNCIL AND PUBLIC WORKS TO WORK WITH TRUGREEN ON PROVIDING AN ESTIMATE AND DETAILS/EXPECTATIONS FOR SNOW REMOVAL FOR DOWNTOWN BUSINESS SIDEWALKS. COMMISSION HOLLEY SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Council Member, Scott Pederson, volunteered to meet with Nick Roy, Public Works Supervisor, and TruGreen, to further discuss the proposal with the hopes of bringing this to Council's January meeting for discussion and a possible decision.

5. School Update

Kurt Stumpf provided updates on recent school activities, which included the latest version of Patriot Connections, their in-house newsletter.

- Highlighted the success of Veterans Day events.
- Mentioned the growth of the band program under new leadership.
- Announced that on January 6th, the school board will consider an election for school facilities and capital projects, potentially set for April 8th.
- Discussed transportation alternatives grant application in partnership with the city for sidewalk improvements. Stumpf mentioned that the due date for the grant application is mid-January, and he had already met with Angie Duus and Mike Davis, along with a few others for initial planning. The proposed projects, amounting to approximately \$400,000, aim to enhance pedestrian pathways with sidewalks identified from a previous safe route to school study. Additional parking and sidewalk improvements were also considered to address current infrastructure needs and ensure safer routes for students.
- Confirmed the presence of a school resource officer and additional security measures in light of recent events in other schools.

6. Chamber Update

No update was provided due to absence of the Chamber representative.

7. Workforce Housing Update

No update was provided due to the absence of a representative.

8. BLAEDC Update

Tyler Glynn provided a few updates:

- Highlighted the success of the St. Thomas Entrepreneurship Day, where eight Pequot Lakes high school students attended.

9. EDC Goals

Nothing new for today, this will be further discussed next month, including master

downtown planning.

10. City Council Update

Commission Lelwica attended the December 2 Council meeting, she provided a recap. Commission Holley will attend the January 6, 2025, Council meeting.

11. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

12. Adjourn

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, COMMISSION HALLAN MOVED TO
ADJOURN THE EDC MEETING. COMMISSION HOLLEY SECONDED THE MOTION.
MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Traci Pederson
Zoning Administrator