



Economic Development Committee Meeting

Draft Minutes

Wednesday July 13, 2022

Town Hall, 18 Depot Hill Rd., Henniker
4:30pm-5:30 PM

Members present: Kris Blomback, Shelbie Connor, Robert Pagano, Lisa Hustis and Paula Amato

Absent: Mark Mitch, Scott Osgood,

Staff: Mark Fougere planner

Agenda

1. Internet grant opportunity – Mark outlined a grant opportunity to provide internet access to the entire community without any cost to taxpayers; Comcast would be picking up costs not covered by Federal funds. The BOS was looking for a recommendation to support the grant application. B. Pagano moved to support application, seconded by L. Hustis; all were in favor.
2. Charging station request: Henniker House reached out to the Committee relative to the town installing electric charging stations in the downtown area. The Committee did not believe this was something taxpayers should support; there are private companies that can install charging stations.
3. Sewer Cost: Old Concord Road area. Questions have arisen relative to the viability to extend sewer service to the Old Concord Road industrial area. Mark discussed potential costs with the Town's sewer engineering consultant and costs would be prohibitive. At least one pump station would be required with an estimated cost of \$1,000,000. In addition, a force main would cost \$350/foot and roadway piping costing \$500-\$600 a foot. To reach the last main hole near the DOT Shed, 8,500 feet of pipe would be

required just to reach Stone Falls Road, never mind the rest of the Street. It is clear such expense is not affordable.

4. Continued discussion of Roundtable discussions; Mark noted that housing costs are impacting many businesses in the community and the planning board will be looking to address this issue with recommended zoning changes this fall.