

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
December 16, 2013 - Monday**

Present: Francis Burke, Chairman
Thomas J. Lacey, Vice Chairman
Jane Hackett, Councilor
Brian McDonald, Councilor

Not present: Patrick O'Connor, Councilor

Also Present: Richard Swanson, Town Auditor
George Lane, Town Solicitor
William McKinney, Chief Financial Officer

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chairman Burke called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

Results of Town Audit

State Audit Report of South Shore Tri-Town Development Corporation

Chairman Burke reviewed the referral from Town Council as a result of the findings of the state's audit of South Shore Tri-Town Development Corp. Several areas were found to be problematic, particularly the contracts- their lack of documentation and prioritization. At its prior meeting, the committee requested the Town Auditor conduct his own audit at Southfield. It appears that conditions have improved since the period the state audit encompasses. Auditor Swanson provided two reports to the committee of his findings. Chairman Burke acknowledged the hours of work that went into the auditor's review.

Auditor Swanson noted his reports should cover any questions. He noted that since the audit, there has been a turnaround in how contracts are handled. There are backup and policy procedures in place.

Chairman Burke noted there are still many issues with the project, but they are outside the scope of the committee's purview. He also recommended that going forward, they consider inviting the town planner to come before the committee. Vice Chairman Lacey agreed with closing out the referral. The committee has completed what they set out to do; however, it is not to be considered a clean bill of health. There are still major issues with the project that need to be discussed and addressed.

Councilor Hackett agreed; she noted that it is important to remember that the audit is just a small part of the issues with South Shore Tri-Town Development Corporation.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Lacey to report out the findings of the committee

to the full Town Council and was seconded by Councilor Hackett. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:27 PM, there being no further business, a MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Lacey to ADJOURN and was seconded by Councilor Hackett. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Frank Burke, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee
Voted unanimously by Town Council on 27 January 2014