

On September 7, 2021, on a motion by Joanne Crowley, seconded by Mary Vilbon, the committee voted 5-0-1 (Joe Gibbs abstained) to approve these minutes.

Town of Yarmouth

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 20, 2021

The Yarmouth Community & Economic Development Committee held a regular Business Meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 20, 2021. The meeting was conducted in the Yarmouth Town Hall Hearing Room.

**Committee Members Present:** Stephen O'Neil, Jack McCormack, Ken Smith, Joanne Crowley and Mary Vilbon

**Staff:** Kyle Pedicini, Economic Development Coordinator; Karen Greene, Director of Community Development; Ed Senteio, Finance Director; Paul Cioffi, IT Director

YARMOUTH TOWN CLERK

The meeting was opened by Ken Smith at 4:05pm

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**1. Broadband Planning Discussion**

Ed Senteio, Finance Director, and Paul Cioffi, IT Director, reviewed the status of the town's broadband planning efforts with the committee. It was noted that the town was hoping to wire four main municipal buildings to broadband by September 2021, which would potentially provide a backbone for additional points of broadband in the future. Mr. Senteio explained that the town was looking into a street light dimming program with Cape Light Compact, where the town could utilize the electrical savings to fund the installation of 5G technology on the street poles. This technology could allow for a wireless delivery of broadband to residential and/or commercial areas in Yarmouth. This wireless technology would also have numerous beneficial applications for town operations, such as providing cost-effective connectivity to remote town locations such as pumping stations. The benefits to residents and businesses would be offering a high-speed internet service option into a marketplace that currently only has one viable provider (Comcast).

Town staff also noted that they were in discussion with consultants who could potentially help the town design and develop a viable broadband plan for the Town. This plan would require an outside telecommunications or media company to partner with the town (through a public/private partnership) in order to be viable, as the Town will not be able to own a municipal fiber network without adding significant start-up costs to the Town. It was noted that the town would likely be looking to start with a pilot program (or multiple pilot programs), focusing on one dense section of the town. Town staff stated that the town may request funds from the CEDC to fund the design/development of one of these pilot programs. The Chairman of the committee asked how much that would cost, and town staff reported that this was to be determined.

Town staff agreed to return to the committee once cost figures are known for the design/development of the aforementioned pilot program. At that time, the town would be looking for the CEDC to recommend an area of town (residential and/or commercial) that would be suitable as a location for this program.

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**2. CEDC Goal Discussion**

The committee reviewed the final list of the 2021 CEDC Goals. Joanne Crowley suggested one minor change to combine to bullet points, but otherwise the committee agreed that it was good to finalize.

**3. Committee Member Updates**

Joanne Crowley reported that the Planning Board was looking into various topics as potential zoning amendments to be presented at the Special Town Meeting in the fall. Topics included food trucks, boat storage, and tattoo parlor zoning. It was noted that the Planning Board was engaging with the business community on these discussions in order to be responsive to community concerns. Jack McCormack noted that the Blue Sky Monopole proposed in South Yarmouth would have another public hearing through the Cape Cod Commission on August 11<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

**4. Staff Updates**

Kyle Pedicini, Economic Development Coordinator, noted that the Board of Selectmen were looking to have the CEDC in for their August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting to discuss committee business, future goals, and any potential issues. Mr. Pedicini presented a rough draft of the presentation to the Selectmen. Committee members suggested making the presentation more visually appealing so it would be more interesting to the Selectmen and greater public. Mary Vilbon suggested that the Chamber of Commerce could prepare a slide on the marketing efforts funded by the committee. Committee members also agreed to add a slide for ongoing topics/issues to discuss with Selectmen. It was noted that Mr. Pedicini would work with the committee Chairman to make the suggested edits and finalize the presentation. All members were invited and encouraged to participate in the presentation.

**5. Minutes for Review**

**Vote:** On a motion from Stephen O’Neil, seconded by Mary Vilbon, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2021 meeting, by a vote of 5-0.

**6. Upcoming Meetings**

The next CEDC meeting will take place on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The committee agreed to hold meetings at 4:30pm going forward.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:45pm

**Document List:**

- CEDC Goal List
- Yarmouth Broadband Business Analysis Report, September 2019
- Draft Minutes from June 10, 2021