

**Minutes of the special meeting of the
ECONOMIC RECOVERY COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, May 24, 202, at 7:00 p.m. via GoToMeeting

In attendance: J. Mancini, S. O'Brien, L. Hogarty, D. Lefko, J. Duffield, D. Bauer, and K. Emerson; *ex officio*, Nancy Gorski; *guests*, Eileen Blewett and Laura Lefko

Mancini called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., confirmed all persons in attendance, and confirmed there was a quorum of the committee.

Public Comment.

Gorski commented that the BOS on Monday had requested the process that this Committee was utilizing to complete its work. Gorski stressed that it is ultimately most important that we have an independent board looking at recommendations of how to spend the funds. BOS will figure out the logistics of how to distribute the monies.

E. Blewett commented regarding the BOS meeting on Monday, suggesting that the committee listen to what Mr. Annino said regarding what he wanted to see the Committee do, as he had created a list that he shared at the BOS. Additionally, Gina was tasked at the prior meeting to determine how items that did not already have an existing line item on the operating budget could be paid out. She returned with the opinion that she is uncomfortable paying out to groups or for items that are not in our operating budget, rather than actually coming up with a process to make such allowable distributions. She recommended that the Committee should seek clarification from the BOS as to whether they are going to listen to the Committee's suggestions that may not fit into an operating or capital budget line item.

Gorski confirmed that the recommendations to provide funding to the Krier, the Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Killingworth Ambulance Association will go to town meeting in June. If approved by the town, Gina will have to find a way as to how to report these.

Bauer responded asking why any new requirements of the Committee's actions or concerns regarding distribution of the funds was not made clear when this Committee was established. He also questioned that if these were true concerns of the BOS and/or Gina that they should be present to discuss that with the Committee.

D. Lefko commented that Gina needs to find a way to properly report the allowable distribution of these funds when they do not fall within a line item of the capital or operating budget. If not her, then we need to find someone who will.

D. Lefko requested that the Chairman reach out to the Democratic Committee and see how they plan to fill the two vacancies on this Committee.

With no objection from the committee members, Mancini agreed to reach out to Annie Stirna and request an update regarding these vacancies.

D. Lefko also commented regarding Mr. Annino's comments at the BOS on Monday, indicating that his comments were unconscionable. Many other surrounding towns have handled the distribution of these funds in the same manner that this Committee operating. It seems that we are just being pushed to give

the money to the town to apply to the capital and/or operating budget, which would strip the townspeople of their voice.

Mancini advised that he would reach out to Gina to ensure she is at our next meeting. She is an integral part at this time and her presence would be helpful

Review and approval of special meeting minutes from May 04, 2022. Hogarty moved to approve the meeting minutes from the May 4, 2022 special meeting. Seconded by Emerson.

Discussion: None.

Motion passed:

Yes: J. Mancini, S. O'Brien, L. Hogarty, D. Lefko, and K. Emerson

Abstained: J. Duffield and D. Bauer

Financial Report – Accounting of Funds. In Gina's absence, Mancini provided an accounting of funds indicating that as of May 24, 2022, there has been one transfer of funds, distributing \$25,000.00 to the Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company, leaving a balance of \$917,395.24.

Gina's report will be submitted with the meeting minutes.

Discussion of process for analyzing projects for use of funds. Mancini presented the meeting document, "Request Priority List thru 2.22.22" and suggested that at this time we as a Committee need to do some planning with regard to how we want to recommend spending the remaining money and determine what groups we may need to have come to present and speak about their specific requests. Mancini charged the Committee with completing this review over the coming weeks.

Adjournment. Bauer moved to adjourn. Seconded by Hogarty. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.