



## Economic Development Commission Town of Lebanon

579 Exeter Road, Lebanon, Connecticut 06249  
(860) 642-2006, Fax (860) 642-2022

### MEETING MINUTES of January 24, 2022

Present: Jim Russo, Chair  
Pat McCarthy  
Charlotte Ross  
Christine Warner  
Absent: Marc Cohen  
Ellen Macauley  
Jim Smith  
Also Present: Philip Chester, Town Planner  
Kevin Cwikla, First Selectman (5:15 p.m.)

- I. Jim Russo called meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.
- II. Public Comments. None.
- III. Minutes. Motion by Charlotte Ross, seconded by Pat McCarthy, to approve the November 30, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion unanimously approved.
- IV. Town Planner Report.  
Vendors reported robust sales from the winter farmers markets. The Selectmen have awarded a total of \$10,000 (\$5,000 for years 2022 and 2023 market) from ARPA funds. These funds can be designated for uses through 2026.

Six (6) farmland preservation contracts have been signed by property owners with the Department of Agriculture in the past 1.5 months, which will preserve almost 400 acres. The Planning and Zoning Commission and Conservation and Agriculture Commission have jointly requested that \$63,823.56 be added to the town's Open Space Account in the FY23 budget to be in line with the 2020 *Plan of Conservation and Development* which calls for having a running balance of \$300,000 in the account.

Town is continuing work on developing 16 one-bedroom affordable senior housing units in front of the Senior Center with the hope to issue an RFP by summer.

Discussion of termination of *Lebanon Life* publication and how EDC funds will continue to be used to fund and support the farmers market and businesses in town.

Discussion on possible future uses for the old Grand Lake Spa and Route 2 interchange properties.

**Motion by Pat McCarthy, seconded by Jim Russo, to send a letter to the Board of Finance in support of adding \$63,823.56 to the Open Space Account for FY23 in conformity with the 2020 Plan of Conservation and Development. Motion unanimously approved.**

**Motion by Pat McCarthy, seconded by Charlotte Ross, to send a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting that an addition \$15,000 in ARPA funds be allocated for the 2024, 2025 and 2026 Farmers Markets at \$5,000 per year. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. The Commission adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Philip S. Chester, AICP  
January 25, 2022