Devens Enterprise Commission (DEC)
Remote Hybrid Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
Minutes June 5, 2025

Members: Duncan Chapman, Melissa Fetterhoff, Christopher Lilly, William Marshall, Jim Pinard, Marty Poutry, Paul Routhier, Deborah Seeley
Members Absent: Robert Garnder, Debra Rivera, Carl Sciple
Staff: Neil Angus, Beth Suedmeyer, Dawn Babcock
Guests: Meg Delorier (EVP MassDevelopment)

(7:30 AM) Chairman William Marshall called the meeting to order

Mr. Marshall read that the Devens Enterprise Commission (DEC) Meeting is being held virtually pursuant to the March 28,2025, Act signed by the Governor extending the ability of state and local public meetings to be held in a hybrid or remote format through June 30, 2027. Interested individuals can listen in and participate by phone and/or on-line by following the link and phone # above. Persons with disabilities or requiring interpretation wishing to listen or participate should contact 978.772.8831 x3334. In accordance with the State's Open Meeting Law, we wish to inform all attendees that this meeting will be recorded by the Devens Enterprise Commission.

(7:30 AM) Chairman Marshall did the roll call for the meeting

(7:37 AM) Mr. Marshall reviewed the agenda of this morning's meeting.

(7:39 AM) Review Minutes:

- **April 29th Draft Minutes** were discussed. Mr. Marshall asked if there were any comments about the minutes. None were mentioned so Mr. Marshall then asked for a motion to accept the minutes as noted. **The motion was made by Mr. Lilly and seconded by Mr. Routhier. The minutes were approved by a roll call vote. Ms. Fetterhoff and Mr. Pinard abstained from the vote as they didn't attend the April 29th meeting.**

Public Hearing:

- **None for this meeting**

New Business:

- **(7:40 AM) FY2026 Minor Budget Adjustment for Nashua Associated Board of Health, Rent, and DEC 30th Anniversary:** Mr. Angus first spoke about a slight adjustment to the FY'25 Budget to cover the 30th Anniversary and the bushes to reestablish the Fort Devens shrubs on Jackson Road. Mr. Angus is looking to take $20K from the Street Tree Planting budgeted for FY'25 the plan is to use $15K for the purchase of the shrubs to be planted and the remaining $5K will go towards the celebration planned for June 24th. Mr. Marshall asked for questions, none were asked. Mr. Marshall then asked for a motion to approve this budget adjustment. **The motion was made by Ms. Seeley and seconded by Mr. Routhier. The motion to approve the budget adjustment was unanimously approved by a roll call vote.** Mr. Angus then noted the amendments he is looking to make on the FY'26 Budget. Mr. Angus is looking to increase the Regional Housing Monitor line-item as their work will increase with the multi-family property starting to be built ($4K), Board of Health increase of 10%, Mr. Angus was looking to increase the Town of Ayer financial services but after speaking with their town administrator they will leave FY26's budget as is but will be increasing by $2K each year for the following two years. Mr. Marshall asked if there were any questions, none were asked. Mr. Marshall then asked for a motion to approve the adjustments to the FY'26 Budget. **The motion was made by Mr. Routhier and seconded by Mr. Pinard. The motion was unanimously approved by a roll call vote.** Mr. Marshall then asked for a motion to approve the modified 3-year agreement for financial services with the Town of Ayer. **The motion was made by Mr. Pinard and seconded by Mr. Poutry. The motion was approved unanimously by a roll call vote.**

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- **(7:56 AM) 604B Water Quality Management Planning Grant Award for Assessment and Planning in the Nashua River Watershed:** Mr. Angus noted that they are working with the Nashua River Watershed Association on this water quality monitoring grant and applied for $200K but were awarded $107K. The team is working on adjusting their water quality monitoring plans on the Nashua River due to the decrease**.**

- **(8:02 AM) Devens Housing Working Group – Final Report:** Mr. Angus noted that the final report was published ahead of schedule. There were not a lot of edits from the draft that was reviewed at an earlier meeting. The report is looking at potential of additional development of housing and mixed use in the Innovation and Technology Center District. The report recommends a number of studies before a super town meeting. Some of these being the school needs assessment as well as an assessment of the existing buildings, traffic, parking, and shuttle services. Mr. Chapman asked about funding and Mr. Angus noted that DEC and Ayer have been awarded funding to help support some of these studies. Mr. Marshall recognized all the work that Mr. Angus has done on this project.

- **(8:12 AM) Devens Jurisdictional Framework Committee Matrix – Taxation:** Mr. Angus shared the draft of the status quo overview memo on current taxation in Devens to the commissioners. There were no comments.

- **(8:14 AM) DEC Procurement Policy – minor update:** Mr. Angus noted that the policy had recently been updated recently and now while working with the DPW on a grant it has come to his attention that we missed one item that could help with the grant they are looking to apply for. The item is the reuse of the excess materials that we currently have. Mr. Lilly suggested that we modify and note where the items can be reused. **Mr. Marshall asked for a motion to approve the policy as modified per Mr. Lilly's suggestion. The motion was made by Ms. Seeley and seconded by Mr. Lilly. The motion was approved unanimously by a roll call vote.**

- **(8:19 PM) 30th Anniversary Update:** Mr. Angus shared the invitation for the event as well as the draft brochure/program he has put together. Mr. Angus noted the organizations he is planning to extend an invitation to. Mr. Angus noted that the plan is to have the bushes of Fort Devens planted but they may not all be planted in time for the celebration but they will be started. Mr. Marshall noted that this is a great opportunity to promote the DEC and its accomplishments over the last 30 years. The majority of the parking for the event will be available at 27 Jackson Road and along Lake George Street, with shuttle service.

- **(8:26 PM) Read File:** Mr. Angus shared a number of articles included in the Read File; Housing Article, NRWA Thank you note, DEC Letter to Board of Health showing support for bill S-1836 State Pension Plan eligibility, opinions of rezone housing in Devens, BMS closing other offices and moving them to Devens. Mr. Angus also noted that Shriver Job Corp will be closing the end of June. Mr. Angus noted that he had reached out to the Governor's office to see if there was something that could be done to avoid the closure. The reuse of the land will fall under Federal jurisdiction instead of MassDevelopment. Mr. Marshall noted there have been a number of articles about the Job Corp. that have different numbers in each of them. Mr. Angus said that he is hoping more information will be coming out about this closure soon.

- Ms. Suedmeyer noted that there are three Devens companies that are listed in the World's Top Tech Green Companies of 2025 Listing in Time Magazine

(8:40 PM) Old Business:

- Mr. Marshall asked if there is any Old Business but Mr. Angus noted there is nothing at this time.

(8:41 PM) Public Comment:

- Mr. Marshall asked if there were any questions/comments from the Public, none were asked.

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(8:32 PM) Mr. Marshall noted the next scheduled meetings are June 24th at 6:45 PM, (Hybrid Meeting), and July 10th at 7:30 AM, (Zoom Meeting)

(8:35 PM) Mr. Marshall asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Mr. Lilly and seconded by Mr. Routhier. The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

List of Exhibits

- Agenda
- April 29th Draft Minutes
- 604B Grant Award Memo to DEC
- Budget Adjustment Memo
- DEC Procurement Policy 2025 revised draft
- Devens Housing Working Group Report
- DJFC Matrix – Taxation
- 30th Anniversary Brochure
- 30th Anniversary Invite

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