

***Devens Enterprise Commission (DEC)***  
***In-Person/Remote Hybrid Public Hearing and Regular Meeting***  
***Minutes February 25, 2025***

***Members (remote):*** Duncan Chapman, Melissa Fetterhoff, Christopher Lilly, William Marshall, Jim Pinard, Marty Poutry, Debra Rivera, Paul Routhier, Carl Sciple,

***Members Absent:*** Robert Gardner, Deborah Seeley

***Staff (remote):*** Neil Angus, Beth Suedmeyer, Dawn Babcock

***Guests (remote):*** Cynthia Carter (Devens Resident), Meg Delorier (EVP MassDevelopment)

**(6:45 PM) Chairman William Marshall called the meeting to order**

Mr. Marshall read that the Devens Enterprise Commission (DEC) Regular Meeting and Public Hearing is being held remotely in accordance with the supplemental budget bill signed into law by Governor Healey, further suspending certain open meeting law requirements to March 31, 2025. Interested individuals may attend and listen in and participate by phone and/or on-line by following the link and/or phone # at the top of the agenda. 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, the Chair informed all attendees that this meeting is being recorded by the Devens Enterprise Commission. Persons with disabilities or requiring interpretation wishing to listen or participate should contact 978.772.8831 x3334.

Mr. Marshall also extended congratulations to Interim Senior Vice President of Devens Operations Meg Delorier for her recent appointment as permanent Senior Vice President of Devens Operations.

**(6:50 PM) Chairman Marshall noted, we will need to nominate Ms. Rivera as a voting Regional Representative for this meeting. The motion was made by Mr. Pinard and seconded by Mr. Routhier. The nomination was approved unanimously by a roll call vote.**

**(6:52 PM) Mr. Marshall reviewed the agenda of this evening's meeting.**

**(6:54 PM) Review Minutes:**

- **January 28<sup>th</sup> 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. Routhier and seconded by Mr. Pinard. The minutes were approved by a roll call vote. Ms. Rivera abstained as she was not present for the January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

**Public Hearing:**

- **None**

**New Business:**

- **(6:55 PM) Devens Enterprise Commission Draft 2024 Annual Report:** Mr. Angus presented the Devens Enterprise Commission's draft 2024 report for the year in review. The report highlighted the Commission's busy year, including project highlights, permits issued, infrastructure projects, and an increase in permit activity. It also discussed the impacts of development, the Devens disposition process, and the Economic Development Bill. The report also touched on public health and safety, transportation, open space, and sustainability initiatives. Mr. Angus also mentioned the creation of an executive summary for the report. No questions were raised. Mr. Marshall asked for a motion to approve the Annual Report. **The motion was made by Mr. Sciple and Seconded by Mr. Pinard. The motion to approve the Annual Report was approved unanimously by a roll call vote.**

- **(7:01 PM) Draft Military Permitting Policy:** Mr. Angus presented a draft military permitting policy to the commission. The policy aims to formalize the process of collaboration with the different branches of the military for permitting. The policy is in line with Chapter 498, of the acts of 1993, which grants the DEC authority to assist the military with reviewing and permitting projects when requested. . The policy is still under legal review and feedback from MassDevelopment is appreciated. Mr. Marshall asked if there were any questions from the Commission and then the public, but none were asked. Mr. Marshall then asked for a motion to approve the Military Permitting Policy once Legal and MassDevelopment review and approve the policy. **The motion was made by Mr. Pinard and seconded by Mr. Lilly. The motion to approve the policy once Legal and MassDevelopment approve was approved unanimously by a roll call vote.**
- **(7:08 PM) Devens Jurisdiction Framework Committee (DJFC) Discussion – Military and Federal:** The discussion focused on current military affairs within Devens, as well as interactions with other federal entities. The Commission discussed a matrix detailing the relationships between Devens Fire Department and various federal and state entities, such as the Department of Defense, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Prisons, and the Army National Guard. The Commission agreed to have staff present it at the next DJFC Meeting.
- **(7:13 PM) Devens Housing Working Group:** The Commission discussed the ongoing process of the Jurisdictional Framework Committee. Mr. Angus was praised for his work in presenting the intricacies of Devens in detail throughout this process. The Devens Housing Working Group was also discussed, with Mr. Angus leading a subcommittee and giving a presentation on the foundational background information of Devens at the Group's February 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. The group was separated into three subcommittees, with Mr. Angus's focusing on Devens fundamentals. The meeting also touched on the timeline of the committee, which is charged with getting a report back to the Legislature and the Governor by May 19<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Angus was commended for his work on the presentation. The working group's next meeting was scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **(7:18 PM) Read File:** Mr. Angus noted that there are a few articles on the housing working group, Sterling Street Brewery, and the appointment of Meg Delorier to the position of EVP for MassDevelopment

#### **(7:20 PM) Old Business:**

- Mr. Angus discussed a meeting with the Town of Harvard regarding the idea of creating a new trail access to Harvard through the existing Old Mill Road Railroad underpass near Red Tail Golf Course, which would involve a shared emergency and pedestrian path.
- Ms. Suedmeyer provided an update on the Transportation Management Association (TMA) initiative in Central North Central Massachusetts, aimed at creating a TMA to serve commuter transit needs. She mentioned that the TMA is in its early phases and is seeking to apply for a MassDOT grant. Ms. Suedmeyer also shared that she would be presenting at several conferences in March to share the work being done on Devens nature-based solutions and pocket forest projects.

#### **(7:28 PM) Public Comment:**

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

(7:28 PM) Mr. Marshall noted the next scheduled meetings are March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 AM, (Zoom Meeting) and March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 PM, (Hybrid Meeting).

**(7:29 PM) Mr. Marshall asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Mr. Pinard and seconded by Mr. Routhier. The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved by a roll call vote.**

## **List of Exhibits**

- Agenda
- January 28<sup>th</sup> Draft Minutes
- New Business
  - Military Permitting Policy Draft
  - DJFC Matrix – Military Affairs and other Federal Uses
  - Read File