DRAFT 15 December 2021 Town of Clifton TIF Committee Meeting Notes

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. in the town office building. Present were Chairperson Linda Graban, Vice Chairperson John Williams II, Secretary David Cogdell and member Nancy Hatch. Member Steve Armenia was not present due to a family-related matter.

Upon a motion by Nancy/David and a 3/0 vote, the minutes of the 17 November 2021 meeting were approved. Linda abstained since she was not at this meeting.

John reported that the visitor from Belfast who is responsible for economic development in that town was again unable to attend our meeting due to a schedule conflict. According to John, the visitor must attend certain meetings that take place on the same dates as our meetings. John noted that he will work with the visitor for possible alternatives to the issue.

The proposed new town survey was discussed, noting that the committee had possession of a document that summarized the results of the data from the circa 2018 survey but not the actual questions. As a result, David will take action to contact the former planning board chairperson Eric Johns, who wrote the survey, to see if he still has a copy that he could provide the committee. Members were encouraged to think about questions they would like to include on the new survey and to be prepared to discuss those and other possible survey questions at the next meeting.

Various other topics discussed at the meeting included the upcoming solar array installation that will be located behind the old Williams sawmill site. It was noted that there would be no TIF for the solar array due to a state-granted significant tax break to encourage solar energy development in Maine. There was a discussion of the use of the town newsletter and road paving activities in the town.

David briefed the committee on the status of the draft comprehensive plan to include the use of previously authorized TIF funds to contract with the Eastern Maine Development Corporation to help with final editing and assistance with the state review process.

It was reported that the Select Board had decided to remove Jeffrey Achorn without a replacement from the committee due to non-attendance. As a result, committee membership will be five members.

Upon a motion by Nancy/John and unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:02 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Committee Secretary David Cogdell.