DRAFT Minutes of the 20 April 2022 Town of Clifton Maine TIF Committee Meeting

The meeting was called to order in the town office building at approximately 6:30 p.m. Present were Committee Chairperson Linda Graban, Committee Secretary David Cogdell and newly-appointed Committee member and town Selectman Bill Rand who replaced Nancy Hatch. Not present was Committee Vice Chairperson John Williams ll who was out of town.

Since David and Linda were the only ones present who had also attended the 16 March 2022 meeting, it was decided to defer voting on accepting the minutes from that meeting to give John an opportunity to review/vote on the minutes as well.

In response to an invitation from John, Mr. Thomas Kittredge, the Town of Belfast Economic Director, attended the meeting and discussed economic development in Belfast with a particular emphasis on the town’s affordable housing and business district TIFs as well as Credit Enhancement Agreements. Additionally, Thomas responded to a variety of questions from the Committee as well as members of the public who were in attendance.

The Committee, as well as members of the public in attendance, engaged in discussions relating to general dissatisfaction/lack of progress/criticism of the Committee’s efforts to date that surfaced at the last Selectmen meeting. This included a failed motion/vote by the Selectmen to dissolve the Committee and notice that the Committee needed to make progress or face dissolution. There were also concerns expressed at that meeting that the Committee had strayed from the guidance provided in the Selectmen’s original 9 February 2021 Order that established the Committee.

Subsequently, the Committee decided to focus its near-term efforts on possible recreational investments/enhancements in the town, especially since the results of the 2019 town survey indicated broad support for recreational opportunities. This included the possible construction of a boat ramp on Chemo Pond and parking improvements at Eagle Bluff. As a result of this discussions, Bill Rand will reach out to the Clifton Climbers Alliance who own Eagle Bluff and invite them to collect cost estimates and other information relating to establishing off road parking facilities on the property.

Asking if the Committee still needed a fifth member, Eileen Williams volunteered upon being advised that there were only four members at present. Her interest will be passed to the Selectmen for action as appropriate.

Upon a motion by Bill/David and a 3/0 vote, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:56 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Committee Secretary David Cogdell