

MINUTES

WATERTOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

TOWN HALL ANNEX
THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2009 – 7:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Suzanne Church
John Manno
Norman Marcoux
Theodore Migliarese, Secretary
Donato Orsini
Jack Traver, Vice Chairman

ABSENT: Joseph McGrail, Chairman

ALTERNATES PRESENT: None

ALTERNATES ABSENT: Patricia Pawlak

OTHERS PRESENT: Gary Martin
Joseph Seacrist, Economic Development Coordinator
Mark Worenko

1. Convene Regular Meeting - 7:30 P.M.

Mr. Traver, Vice Chairman, Called the Meeting to Order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Traver, Vice Chairman, executed the Roll Call.

3. Public Participation

MOTION: (Mr. Migliarese, sec. Ms. Church) to move Item 3 to Item 8A.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

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4. Minutes

A. Regular Meeting – January 15, 2009

MOTION: (Mr. Marcoux, sec. Mr. Donato) to Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes dated January 15, 2009 as presented.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Regular Meeting – February 19, 2009 (Cancellation Notice)

5. Correspondence

Mr. Traver, Vice Chairman, read aloud a letter from Joe McGrail, Chairman, Economic Development Commission to Elaine Adams, Chairman, Town Council, Re: Economic Development Commission Report for 2008. A lengthy discussion ensued.

6. Economic Development Coordinator's Report

Mr. Seacrist gave a report (attached). A lengthy discussion ensued.

7. New Business

A. Conference Call on Web Site

This was rescheduled to the next meeting.

B. EDC Letter of Accomplishment

Mr. Traver reported on this under Correspondence.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

A. Update – Griffin School

A discussion took place regarding this issue.

B. Update – Visits to Local Manufacturing Facilities

Mr. Seacrist reported on this under the Coordinator's Report.

C. Meet and Greet 2009

It was decided to move forward with this event. Funds are available in the budget. A brief discussion ensued.

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D. Update of Post Office

Mr. Seacrist reported after trying to find a new location for the Post Office, the Post Office management has placed a freeze on all building projects for the indefinite future.

E. Update – Business Park

Not discussed.

F. Meeting with Town Council Subcommittee

Mr. Seacrist reported they wanted to talk to the Business Development Subcommittee of the Town Council regarding potential incentives for businesses to move to Watertown. A brief discussion ensued.

G. Letter to Governor Rell regarding Route 8 Sign

Governor Rell forwarded this request to the Department of Transportation, who subsequently rejected it. The Commission has asked Sean Williams to attach it to another bill.

H. EDC Budget

Not discussed

I. Use of Town Attorney Policy

Mr. Seacrist reported the Town Manager distributed a memo delineating the policy for the use of a Town Attorney by a board or commission.

8A Public Participation

Mark Worenko, 636 Platt Road, Watertown, CT 06795

Mr. Worenko asked what the mission of this Commission was?

Mr. Traver replied this Commission tries to come up with a position of support or not regarding businesses in Town, make recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Mr. Migliarese stated it was the Commission's responsibility to retain the current business in Watertown, while attempting to add new business as well to help with the taxes.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the Route 262 project.

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Gary Martin, Bella Vista Drive, Watertown, CT 06795

Mr. Martin discussed the Route 262 project.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: (Mr. Migliarese, sec. Mr. Marcoux) to Adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Regular Meeting Adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph McGrail, Chairman
Watertown Economic Development Commission

Approved: _____
Lynn M. LaForme, Clerk