

MINUTES

WATERTOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

TOWN HALL ANNEX
THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009 – 7:30 P.M.

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

ABSENT: Donato Orsini

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Patricia Pawlak

ALTERNATES ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Marty Connor, Consultant for Hard Rock Development
Nick Perugini, Hard Rock Development
Joseph Seacrist, Economic Development Coordinator

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

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

2. Roll Call

Mr. McGrail, Chairman, executed the Roll Call.

MOTION: (Mr. Marcoux, sec. Mr. Traver) to move Item 7A to Item 2A.

Discussion: Due to people who may want to discuss the web site.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

7A. Conference Call Regarding Web Site

Mr. McGrail placed a conference call to Amy Curran, CGI Communications, regarding the web site. Ms. Curran explained the PowerPoint presentation in detail. A lengthy discussion ensued.

3. Public Participation

Marty Connor, Consulting Planner
Nick Perugini, Hard Rock Development

Mr. Connor reported he was helping Hard Rock Development regarding their proposed change to the zoning regulations. He read aloud a letter to the Economic Development Commission, regarding Hard Rock Development's Amendment to the Watertown Zoning Regulations, article IV, Industrial District, Section 42, Restricted Industrial, IR-890 and IR-200 District.

Mr. Connor and Mr. Perugini explained in detail what their proposed zoning regulation changes were.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

4. Minutes

A. Regular Meeting – March 19, 2009

MOTION: (Mr. Traver, sec. Mr. Migliarese) to Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes dated March 19, 2009 as presented.

Discussion: None

In Favor: Ms. Church, Mr. Marcoux, Mr. Migliarese, Mr. Orsini, Mr. Traver

Opposed: None

Abstained: Mr. McGrail

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Correspondence

None

6. Economic Development Coordinator's Report

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

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7. New Business

A. Conference Call on Web Site

This was discussed under item 3, however further discussion ensued amongst the Committee members.

MOTION: (Mr. Migliarese, sec. Mr. Traver) to have the Town Manager pursue this.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Interest in a Christmas Initiative

Mr. McGrail reported they should start talking about this now if they want to go forward with this initiative. A brief discussion ensued.

MOTION: (Mr. Migliarese, sec. Mr. Marcoux) to add Item 7C, Discussion regarding Hard Rock Development's proposal.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Hard Rock Development's Proposal

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding this issue.

MOTION: (Mr. Migliarese, sec. Ms. Church) based on the presentation by Hard Rock Development, the Economic Development Commission will submit a letter to the Planning and Zoning Commission supporting the efforts to amend the Zoning Regulations to allow construction contractors in the IR-200 zone, as long as it is consistent with Planning and Zoning requirements.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Old and Unfinished Business

A. Update – Griffin School

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

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B. Update – Power Plant

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

C. Meet and Greet 2009

Mr. Seacrist reported at the last meeting the Commission decided to move ahead and try to find some dates in 2009, most likely during the Summer months. Mr. McGrail suggested September, after vacations.

D. Update of Post Office

Mr. McGrail stated there is nothing new to report. Mr. Seacrist reported all construction projects have been cancelled due to their deficit. A brief discussion ensued.

E. Update – Route 262

Mr. McGrail reported that’s in court right now, won’t go anywhere for awhile.

F. Meeting with Town Council Subcommittee

Mr. McGrail will ask the Business Development Subcommittee of the Town Council to attend the May meeting to discuss current issues.

G. Route 8 Signage

Mr. McGrail stated Representative Sean Williams is still working on the signs.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: (Mr. Migliarese, sec. Mr. Traver) to Adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Regular Meeting Adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph McGrail, Chairman
Watertown Economic Development Commission

Approved: _____
Lynn M. LaForme, Clerk