

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT 7/16/2009

Submitted by: Joe Seacrist

- 1. Implemented the "Welcome to Watertown" program for the approximately 15 new businesses which were acquired when the town boundary between Waterbury and Watertown was moved. Put together a letter, which went out under the Town Manager's name, and which I personally in person reviewed with each business not in the Pin Shop, The letter addressed the concerns most businesses had. For businesses in the Pin Shop I went over the letter and answered any questions from the Landlord, Maurice Fabiani and left copies of the information packet for him to distribute to each of his tenants. Specifically the letter and meeting included the following:**
 - a. All addresses on Watertown Avenue, including all in the Pin Shop would remain the same, with only the need to change the city to Oakville from Waterbury. This was greeted as great news by all of the businesses. As a result, we added Watertown Avenue to the list of Streets in Watertown.**
 - b. There was no need to change phone numbers (for which the businesses were extremely grateful).**
 - c. Included a change of address card from the post office with each letter, making it as easy as possible for them to change the address to Oakville. Also included instructions on how to make the change of address online, with an instant confirmation from the Post office.**
 - d. Worked with the Police and Fire Departments to make sure that on July 1, all 911 calls from these addresses came to Watertown instead of Waterbury. Anne in dispatch followed up with each business to make sure the phone company had made the change over correctly, which they did.**
 - e. Indicated to each business that they were now in a BC Central Business District zone, and included a copy of the regulations of what is allowed in a BC zone. Notified each business that any current uses not allowed in BC would be grandfathered as of July 1, 2009. They were all asked to verify any grandfathered non-conforming use to P&Z with pictures ASAP, to alleviate any future disputes concerning what was grandfathered and what was not.**

- 5. Attended an OPM seminar at the Naugatuck Town Hall on implementing the block grant of \$89,000 which Watertown has been indicated to receive. The grant is part of the national stimulus program and has to be used to improve the use of energy in the town. It appears that our grant will likely be used to facilitate the possible installation of solar heating panels on Hemingway School when it becomes the new Town Hall.**

- 6. Working with Mark Marabito from the Watertown Renewable Energy Plant, Sean Williams and Rob Kane to continue to try to get necessary legislation to facilitate the funding of this plant passed during this legislative session.**