



MINUTES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

Town Hall Annex
424 Main St., Watertown, CT 06795
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2011, 7:30 PM

Members Present: Suzanne Church
John Manno
Joseph McGrail, Chairman
Theodore Migliarese, Secretary
Nancy Rahuba
Charles Rowan (arrived late)
Jack Walton

Absent: Jack Traver

Alternates Present: Donato Orsini

Alternatives Absent:

Others Present: Joseph Seacrist, Economic Development Coordinator
Raymond Primini, Chairman, Town Council
Kace Duplissie, Town Council

Donato Orsini sat in for Jack Traver.

1. Convene Regular Meeting

Mr. McGrail, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

2. Roll Call

Roll call executed

Donato Orsini sat in for Jack Traver.

3. Public Participation

Jim Lukasavage

Mr. Lukasavage asked about the growing business of medical facilities and he had not seen anything in the EDC website regarding the 150 acres available in town.

Mr. McGrail replied we are working with CERC right now to see where the towns deficiencies are and what are potential can be.

Day Palmer – 267 Bryant Road

We have been gathering the Steele Collation together regarding what is the best direction to get the flooding corrected and has asked the commission for help. Joe Seacrist said he has been in contact with the ETC to try have someone attend their meetings in the near future and will notify them of the date. Ms. Palmer said the state is attending a meeting for November 7th for anyone applying for hazard mitigation and severe repetitive loss. We attended a meeting with Public Works and they are working on getting us information and have not heard anything to date. Ms. Palmer said she has a letter from one business on the Steele Brook Collation stating that the gentleman is going out of business and he is one of the 24 businesses on our list and has a great fear that his is going to happen to a lot more other businesses.

4. Minutes – September 15, 2011

MOTION: (Nancy Rahuba sec. John Manno) to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from September 15, 2011 as presented.

Aye: 7
Nay: 0
Abstain: 1

Motion passes

5. Correspondence

Bill to pay membership for CERC \$550.00.

(Nancy Rahuba sec. Suzanne Church0 to pay CERC bill of \$550.00 membership.

Aye: 7
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0

Mr. Seacrist shared with the commission articles in the magazine from the University of Connecticut regarding articles such as which states are heavily regulated and ones that are not, schools in relationship with property taxes, average pay for teachers and class sizes.

6. Economic Development Coordinator's Report

Distributed at meeting and posted on web.

7. Old and Unfinished Business

- a.) Update on CERC information** – commission reviewed & discussed proposal for the town broken down into Phase I and Phase II.
A suggestion to have someone from CERC on the phone for next meeting with questions.
- b.) Update on CVS proposal** – it is on going and there is an item on agenda for Planning & Zoning Board of Appeals regarding setback variances for next meeting.
- c.) Update on Litchfield Bancorp relocation** – no update
- d.) Update on Blight Ordinance** – on going
- e.) Update on Medical Complex on Buckingham St.** – the judge is asking for more time to review the briefs.
- f.) Utilization study of building with industrial park** – gentlemen who has a horse saddle business in building is expanding using 90,000 square feet space for a showroom.
- g.) 2011/12 Speakers or Informational Sessions** – Mr. Seacrist has contacted DEDC for more speakers and maybe contact Rob Kane or Shawn Williams to comment on what up is coming up in Hartford.
- h.) 2011/2012 Meet and Greet - Fall or Spring ???** – Discussion under New Business
- i.) Discussion regarding tree replacement on Main St** – the proposal to trim the trees on Main Street with no charge was turned over to the Town Manager and the Public Works subcommittee of the Town Council accepted the offer to do it. Mr. Seacrist talked to the merchant owners in Oakville and they did want the trees down due to safety reasons with leaves and grate lifting and it obscured the business signs.
- j.) Update on Construction Debris Facility** – working with Bailie and wanted to start remediation immediately after that. The railroad is anxious to build two additional areas for railcars.

8. New Business

a. Discussion regarding Seminar for Commercial Realtors and replacing it with the annual meet and greet.

Joe Seacrist had an idea instead of the meet and greet to extend an invitation to industrial and commercial brokers to give them a presentation of the town and show the available properties.

9. Adjournment

Motion: (Nancy Rahuba sec. Suzanne Church) to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMIOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph McGrail, Chairman