

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT 6/16/2011

Submitted by Joseph Seacrist

- 1. Met with Joe Yamin, the owner of Grffin School LLC to discuss his proposal to demolish the current former school building and replace it with a new CVS retail store. He indicated he has a letter of commitment from CVS to build on that location. The proposal is to demolish the current Litchfield Bank building on the corner of Davis and Main Street and incorporate it into the development of the entire corner.**
- 2. Worked with both parties, Yamin and the town to determine next steps for getting permission to move forward with the demolition and construction.**
- 3. Attended the Town Council meeting with Joe McGrail, prepared to speak in support of the project. Mr. McGrail did speak, but my additional comments were not necessary. The council voted to allow the demolition of the current school as long as it was for CVS only. A proposal for any other use for the property would have to be returned to the council for their approval for demolition and construction. The vote on the town council was unanimous in favor of demolition and construction.**
- 4. The next step is an appearance before Planning and Zoning to request a zone change from residential to commercial. Then the developers will have to apply for a demolition permit, once all the planning and zoning issues have been resolved.**
- 5. Brass City Hyundai is scheduled to appear before Inland Wetlands to apply for permission to add on to a building at the site of the former State's Dairy property on Straits Turnpike. They intend to remove the current former loading dock area and replace it with a new 8,800 sf two story building (17,600 sf total) , which will house sales, offices and administration. The current office building will be renovated to serve as the new service area. (conceptual site plans are attached to this report).**
- 6. With the passage of the Town budget, the Watertown Economic Development Commission has an additional \$10,000 dedicated for work with CERC.**

- 7. At the last EDC meeting a subcommittee was formed to refine the CERC proposal. That subcommittee is scheduled to meet in early July.**
- 8. The governor has approved the plans for a regional economic development commission for the Naugatuck Valley region which includes Watertown. This means that any Federal dollars we might ask for will have to be sent to this regional authority for their approval first and then passed on the state DECD before being considered by the Federal Government. This is consistent with the approval by the Federal and State governments of our CEDAS plans.**
- 9. Communicated with the President of Planter's Choice LLC concerning his concerns regarding emergency access to his fields which border the Lovely Development on Bunker Hill Road. He was informed by P&Z that he could not alter the emergency entrance by removing part of a stone wall and inserting a new gate. After discussion with the Town Manager, the matter has been referred to Planning and Zoning for their resolution.**
- 10. On June 22, you all have been invited to the Travelers Championship golf tournament from 10:00 until noon. The Program is:**
Commissioner Daniel C. Esty, Department of Environmental Protection - Commissioner Esty recognizes the important role of the DEP in determining Connecticut's business climate. He is working hard to align the Department's activities with new economic growth opportunities in the state

Cost: FREE

Come for the breakfast program - stay for the Celebrity Pro-AM Day at the Travelers Championship. As a special networking opportunity immediately after the morning program we will be joined by DECD Commissioner Catherine Smith between 12:00 - 1:30 PM. As part of a two-day state site tour Commissioner Smith will be joined by national site selectors at the Chalet for lunch. (Must attend breakfast to stay for meet & greet).

11. Revised the Watertown business list to include the latest changes in businesses moving into and out of the town. Below is a summary of types and numbers of businesses in Watertown. The total number of businesses listed in our personal property tax rolls is approximately 890.

BUSINESS CODE

LEGEND

SERVICE =310	S	MEDICAL =41	ME
PROF.SERVICE =66	PS	AUTOMOTIVE =20	A
RETAIL =150	RT	CONSTRUCTION=	C
MANUFACTURING =52	M	110	L
INDUSTRIAL =32	I	LANDSCAPING=34	F
RESTAURANT =48	RS	FARM=8	
GAS STATION =8	GS		
BANKS =9	B		