



**MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

**Watertown High School Lecture Room
324 French St., Watertown
THURSDAY, September 16, 2010, 7:30 PM**

Members Present: Suzanne Church
Joseph McGrail, Chairman
Jack Walton
Donato Orsini, V. Chairman
Jack Traver

Absent: Theodore Migliarese, Secretary
John Manno

Alternates Present: Charles Rowan

Alternates Absent: Patricia Pawlak

Others Present: Joseph Seacrist, Economic Development Coordinator

1. Convene Regular Meeting

Mr. McGrail, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

2. Roll Call

Mr. McGrail executed the Roll Call.

3. Public Participation

None

MOTION: (Mr. Traver seconded by Ms. Church) to amend the order of the agenda to allow Robert Santy, (agenda item 7a) to speak to the Commission and the public at this time.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Santy gave his presentation to the Commission and public regarding CERC.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:20 pm..

4. Minutes

a. Regular Meeting – August 19, 2010

MOTION: (Mr. Walton sec. Mr. Traver) to approve the Meeting Minutes dated August 19, 2010.

Discussion: None.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Correspondence

None.

6. Economic Development Coordinator's Report

Mr. Seacrist, Economic Development Coordinator, gave a detailed report which is attached.

7. New Business

a. Robert Santy, President of Connecticut Economic Resource Center will speak at the meeting regarding CERC.

Mr. Santy spoke earlier in the meeting

b. Discuss regional reorganization of EDC's for DECD.

No further information has been received. Currently, if Watertown needed information, the commission could contact the DECD directly. Once regionalization has been established, the regional contact would have to be contacted.

8. Old and Unfinished Business

- a. Discuss the Blight Ordinance being presented to Town Council.

Mr. McGrail has not heard back from the Town Council – the Town Council Ordinance Subcommittee has yet to meet on this and at this time no scheduled meeting has been set.

- b. Update on zoning change on Buckingham St.

No further information has been received. It is still working its way through the court system. Discussion took place regarding the zoning regulations for the business park and changing them now as opposed to later when and if a medical concern wants to put a business in the park. Jack Traver discussed the “what if” a major medical or pharmaceutical wanted to mover into the business park. Would the present zoning allow such a use?

MOTION: (Mr. Traver sec. Ms. Church) to further look into changing the whole business park zoning regulations to allow office, R & D, and the manufacturing of drug and medical products.

Discussion: None

VOTE: Aye: 4 Nay: 0 Abstain: 2

- c. Discuss EDC Budget for 2010-2011.

No further information was discussed at this time. The Town Budget was passed but the Board of Education Budget failed at the August 24th budget referendum.

- d. Update on the Farmer’s Market.

The Farmer’s Market went very well this year – next year looking to expand the length of time into early October. The end date currently in place was set to not conflict with the Fall Festival.

- e. Update on Power plant.

The Power Plant was discussed during the EDC Coordinator’s report. The DPUC has decided against letting the power plant change its contractual arrangements with CL&P, which probably means the plant will be further delayed in construction if it is constructed at all.

- f. Discussion regarding local business expo planning.

No further information was discussed at this time.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: (Mr. Traver sec. Ms. Church) to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 pm.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph McGrail, Chairman