

**Town of East Windsor
Economic Development Commission**

**11 Rye Street, P.O. Box 389
Broad Brook, CT 06016**

Website: <http://www.eastwindsorct.com>

***Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 18, 2015***

I. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Members Present: Eric Moffett, Josh Kapelner, Maria Rumore, Bill Kehoe and Jim Richards.

Also in Attendance: Roger O'Brien, Economic Development Consultant

Chairman Eric Moffett called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the East Windsor Town Hall meeting room, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

There was no public participation

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: To approve the minutes of April 20, 2015.

Kapelner / Kehoe

In Favor: Kapelner, Kehoe, Moffett

Abstain: Rumore

IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION:

EDC members talked about some businesses in town closing such as Pasco's Restaurant. Mr. Moffett asked what they can do to proactively keep businesses in town. He suggested that Roger O'Brien can probably give some suggestions as to how to proceed. Mr. Kapelner said these businesses are dependent on local people. He said disposable income is needed to promote the businesses.

EDC members discussed the proposed police shooting range. Mr. Kapelner said he supports public safety but he felt they should locate in an area with access from a major highway.

Mr. Richards gave an update on the tax incentive program. He said the Board of Selectmen is on board. It is a matter of finalizing it. The only question was the time frame. This is the first step to create an incentive program. He said with the mill rate increasing it is important to have the tax incentive program.

Mr. O'Brien noted that his first assignment was to look at the 2004 Plan of Conservation and Development for economic development. He said the First Selectman has asked him to make a presentation next Thursday (5/28). That will be a place to get dialog. He will put some ideas out there.

Regarding the possibility of locating a casino in East Windsor, Mr. O'Brien said he looked at Springfield to see what community impacts were anticipated there. Mr. Richards said we should jump on the opportunity to promote the casino. Mr. Moffett questioned what they as the EDC can do with the biggest economic development property (the former Walmart site, movie theater site and LaRenaissance). He said they need to get information on these properties and find out who the developers are. Ms. Rumore said we need to bring these people together and suggested having Mr. O'Brien coordinate. Mr. Moffett suggested having a phone conference with everyone involved.

Mr. Kapelner said he felt that the EDC is not a commission. It is an advisory board. He said he would like to propose that they bring to the Board of Selectmen to change their name to the Economic Development Advisory Board. He said we work with the Selectmen. We give our input but we have no teeth.

MOTION: To instruct the staff to provide the EDC with the land owners and/or the entity of any commercial properties available and all properties located on Route 140 by the June meeting.
Richards / Kehoe / Unanimous

Mr. Moffett said we need to develop a game plan. Mr. Richards said we need to become very familiar with what is out there. He said there should be properties targeted for marketing. He suggested that they take the information that they receive and get it down to 10 and give it to Mr. O'Brien.

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.
Kapelner / Richards / Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Bauer
Recording Secretary