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, January 22, 2018

I. <u>ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM</u>

Members Present: Bill Kehoe, Nicholas Laskos and Gil Hayes

Also Present: Laurie Whitten, Town Planner

Robert Maynard, First Selectman

Acting Chairman Bill Kehoe called the meeting to order at 6:22 p.m.

II. PUBLIC PARTCIPATION:

None.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

No minutes to be approved. Previous meeting was discussion only since a quorum was not established.

IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Review EDC Ordinance

The EDC members briefly discussed the EDC Ordinance and the need for by-laws. The by-laws for the Planning & Zoning Commission were distributed for the Commission's review. Ms. Whitten suggested that she could do a mockup of by-laws and have something ready to be discussed at the next meeting

Separate EDC Website

Ms. Whitten passed out copies of a list of Town of East Windsor amenities (including banquet facilities, restaurants, hotels, motels, airports, things to do and places of worship), as possible items to be included on the EDC

website. She said this is just a starting place and asked the EDC members for suggestions as to other categories to be included. Mr. Laskos suggested adding farms. Ms. Whitten questioned whether they should list all businesses. Mr. Kehoe suggested checking with the Chamber.

Mr. Hayes suggested putting together a welcome packet of information for new businesses.

Mr. Maynard passed copies showing what the website will look like. Ms. Whitten noted that the EDC bought a separate page from the Town website. It will have a direct link from the Town page. She said the Simsbury website has a good example of an EDC page. The EDC members discussed how they want the website to look. It was suggested having a slide show of pictures and an aerial shot of the casino property. Mr. Kehoe said he would like to see a picture with a person holding a sign that says "Open for Business" on the EDC website. Mr. Kehoe said he will take a screen shot of the Simsbury website and over the course of the next month he will make a list of possible items for the website. He suggested to the EDC members that they can "brainstorm" over email and at the next meeting they can decide what they want.

Job Description - Full-time Economic Development Coordinator

Ms. Whitten said she is asking for \$50,000 in the 2017-2018 budget for a part-time EDC person. She said she anticipates that there will be further need for someone. Mr. Kehoe suggested asking Andy Hoffman for help in finding someone.

MMCT – Commercial Recreation:

Ms. Whitten reported that tomorrow night (1/23/18) the Planning & Zoning Commission is having a public hearing to expand the HIFZ (Highway Interchange Floating Zone) to make it an HIZ (Highway Interchange Zone). They will be landing the zone so that it is an overlay zone. They will be expanding the areas and allowing more uses.

Ms. Whitten said MMCT is moving forward. They have an application for wetlands approval. She said they anticipate coming in for a discussion with PZC and then coming in with a full application.

Warehouse Point Rezoning

Ms. Whitten noted that between the proposed casino and the proposed Transit Oriented District (TOD) we have been seeking money. She said we have been awarded a \$123,800 grant to do a Warehouse Point storm water management study to prevent flooding in that area and to do the rezoning. She said she worked on that grant last summer and it was implemented through DECD.

Incentives

Ms. Whitten said the tax incentives need to be easily accessible on the website. She suggested having it on the home page stating "Learn about our business tax incentive program."

Economic Development Issues

Mr. Hayes said we need to get more members on the EDC. The EDC members briefly discussed the best way to recruit new members.

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn Hayes / Laskos / Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Bauer, Recording Secretary