



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

www.ellington-ct.gov

TEL. (860) 870-3120 TOWN PLANNER'S OFFICE FAX (860) 870-3122

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2016, 7:00 PM

PRESENT: Chairman - Sean Kelly, Vice Chairman - Chris Todd, David Hurley, Alternate-Stefanie Cunningham, Alternate-Francie Berger and Alternate-Donna Resutek

ABSENT: Stanislav Moline

STAFF/OTHERS

PRESENT: Lisa Houlihan - Town Planner and Lori Spielman - First Selectman

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Kelly called the commission meeting to order at 7:04 PM

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

III. ACTIVE BUSINESS:

BY CONSENSUS, THE COMMISSION WENT OUT OF AGENDA ORDER TO HEAR ITEM #2.

2. Report: Tolland County Chamber of Commerce (TCCC)

a. Economic Development Committee (EDC) Meeting(s) – Staff Report

Lisa Houlihan, Town Planner, attended the last EDC meeting of the TCCC on February 9, 2016. Committee members discussed the legislative breakfast held on February 4, 2016. The event was well attended and included a bipartisan group of local legislators. The majority of discussion focused on Governor Malloy's budget speech, the need to cut state spending, discontentment with annual unemployment special assessments, and the need to reform state employee pension plans.

b. Annual Legislative Breakfast - Thursday, February 4, 2016, 8:00 AM, 20 Hartford Road, Manchester (Tolland County and Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce).

This item was discussed above.

c. Survey of Ellington Businesses

A four question survey was mailed to approximately 160 Ellington businesses. The questionnaire informed businesses about the legislative breakfast and the opportunity to speak to area legislators. Four (4) businesses responded. Respondents spoke negatively about increased taxes and fees, displeasure with the Affordable Care Act and flat-tiered minimum wage hikes. The general sentiment is that Connecticut is not business friendly.

d. 21st Annual Business Showcase, April 5, 2016, 4 PM – 7 PM, Maneeley's, South Windsor, CT.

Ms. Houlihan noted that last year the EDC shared a booth with the Ellington Farmers' Market. Ellington's Tax Abatement Program and Shop Ellington were illustrated. Chairman Kelly noted that the Farmers' Market received the bulk of attention from those that visited the booth.

BY CONSENSUS, ITEM D WAS TABLED TO MARCH 9, 2016.

BY CONSENSUS, THE COMMISSION WENT BACK TO ORIGINAL AGENDA ORDER.

1. Discussion: January 13, 2016 Workshop - Fundamentals of Municipal Economic Development – A Transformational Approach.

a. Review of (CERC) Connecticut Economic Resource Center's self-assessment.

The Commission completed an electronic survey. The survey is designed to assess a community's economic development capacity and to assist in prioritizing resources for economic development and community engagement.

Chairman Kelly suggested that CERC attend an upcoming meeting to help the Commission assess survey responses and identify areas for improvement. Ms. Houlihan will contact CERC and seek further assistance.

MOVED (HURLEY), SECONDED (TODD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE A \$250 EXPENDITURE FROM THE EDC BUDGET FOR CONNECTICUT ECONOMIC RESOURCE CENTER TO EVALUATE SURVEY RESULTS AND ASSIST THE COMMISSION.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. Approval of the November 18, 2015, meeting minutes and the January 13, 2016 regular meeting minutes.

MOVED (TODD), SECONDED (BERGER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 18, 2015, AS WRITTEN.

MOVED (BERGER), SECONDED (TODD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 13, 2016, AS WRITTEN.

2. Election of Officers – 2016

MOVED (TODD), SECONDED (HURLEY) TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER KELLY FOR CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FOR 2016.

COMMISSIONER KELLY ACCEPTED THE NOMINATION. HEARING NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS, NOMINATIONS WERE CLOSED.

MOVED (RESUTEK), SECONDED (TODD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT COMMISSIONER KELLY FOR CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FOR 2016.

MOVED (KELLY), SECONDED (HURLEY) TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER TODD FOR VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FOR 2016.

COMMISSIONER TODD ACCEPTED THE NOMINATION. HEARING NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS, NOMINATIONS WERE CLOSED.

MOVED (KELLY), SECONDED (HURLEY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT COMMISSIONER TODD FOR VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FOR 2016.

3. Correspondence:

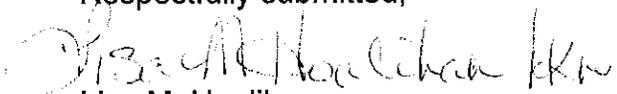
- a. CEDAS (Connecticut Economic Development Association) 2016 Membership Renewal.

MOVED (HURLEY), SECONDED (BERGER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE RENEWAL OF CEDAS MEMBERSHIP FOR 2016.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED (KELLY), SECONDED (RESUTEK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Lisa M. Houlihan

Acting Recording Secretary