

Town of Barkhamsted
Economic Development Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:10 PM

Attending members: Bob Pulford, Brian Johnson, Tim Deschenes-Desmond, Tim Sullivan, Linda Ganem. Also present were Don Stein, First Selectman and Dave Lewis.

Review of minutes: On a motion by Bob Pulford, seconded by Brian Johnson, and passed unanimously, the minutes of the February 17, 2022, meeting were approved. Linda Ganem and Tim Sullivan abstained.

Discussion: Dave Lewis provided an update on the status of the Community Garden at the Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church. All beds are accounted for, including one person who has two beds, one of which will be for Scouts, and a couple of other people who requested two beds. No one who requested a bed was denied that opportunity. The irrigation tanks have been flushed and the soil in the beds is unfrozen, but they are high in phosphorus, so this year peat moss will be added to the beds instead of additional topsoil. The Riverton Fire department through Keith Archer is committed to keeping the tank full throughout the growing season.

Opening day is planned for April 23 and there will be need to be a work party prior to that, to clean up the area and clear some overgrown brush. There was also discussion of buying a shed to store tools, hoses, etc. The Church is o.k. with a shed being put in place and Dave suggested that an 8'X12' shed would be about right. In total, with a foundation, floor, ramp and roof, the cost would be about \$2500. The garden has \$471 in its account with the Town and is expecting income of \$610 this year. There was discussion of applying for a grant from the NWCT Community Foundation to cover the cost of a shed.

Discussion:

- Don Stein informed the members that the Town would be funding (through ARPA funds) a feasibility/cost study of installing fiber optics throughout the town and starting a town internet service, either individually or jointly with neighboring communities. This will cost \$23,000 and will be performed by Sertex, who is doing other towns in Northwest CT and also installs and manages internet services.
- The Town has agreed with Winsted to hire their new Economic Development Director for 5 hours per week. This will also be paid through ARPA funds. The Commission members brainstormed ideas for Ted and he will come to the next EDC meeting.
 - Get input from businesses as to
 - the kind of support they need,
 - are there issues with the cost of doing business or taxes in town,
 - how can we promote their businesses and/or
 - what kind of publicity would be helpful

- Help with the planned business “meet and greet” in June and the “bingo” that was discussed at the last meeting. Consider doing the bingo jointly with Winsted to improve the number of people participating
- Update the contact list, improve communications with businesses, including home businesses
- Connect business owners with each other
- Work on improving participation in Discover Litchfield Hills, both for greater participation and publicizing events

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Stein

Amesbury BINGO

 <p>1 Market Sq.</p>	 <p>6 Pond St.</p>	 <p>104 Main St.</p>	 <p>36 Main St</p>	 <p>4 Water St.</p>
 <p>105 Main St.</p>	 <p>36 Main St.</p>	 <p>18 Friend St.</p>	 <p>48 Main St.</p>	 <p>5 Market Sq.</p>
<p>alchemy + art</p> <p>44 Main St.</p>	 <p>45 Main St.</p>	<p>FREE See rules on back</p>	 <p>32 Elm St.</p>	 <p>84 Haverhill Rd.</p>
 <p>19 Main St.</p>	 <p>11 Elm St.</p>	 <p>106 Main St.</p>	 <p>85 Main St.</p>	 <p>10 Market Sq.</p>
 <p>25 Main St.</p>	 <p>24 High St.</p>	 <p>26 Millyard #8</p>	 <p>123 E. Main St. Merrimac</p>	 <p>1 Mill St.</p>



The Amesbury Chamber of Commerce has teamed up with Institution for Savings to support our local businesses by playing Amesbury Bingo during February 2022!

Rules:

Standard bingo play, 5 across, 5 down or 5 diagonal to claim a bingo.

First 50 players to turn in a verified bingo will receive a \$10 Amesbury Chamber gift card!*

First player to turn in a completed bingo card (all 24 businesses) will win a \$100 Chamber gift card!

Each bingo enters you into a raffle for chances to win gift cards of your choosing from the participating bingo business or from the Amesbury Chamber.

**Grand prize \$500
2nd place \$250
3rd place \$100**

If you fill the board (12 bingos) you will be entered to win 20 times!

Purchases must be dated February 1st-28th, 2022 to qualify.

Digital or print receipt must be from a participating business!

Completed bingos can be emailed to info@amesburychamber.com with photos of receipts showing qualifying purchase or brought into the Chamber of Commerce office located at 5 Market Sq.**

Winners will be announced Thursday, March 3rd

* Only one \$10 gift card will be handed out per player, regardless of the number of bingos that player submits.

** Each receipt may only be used once.

Gener. Store
Riv. Inn
Bakery
Glass Blower
Aarons?
Hitchcock
Pr Gen store
Mimi
Log House
Roxanne - Aercont.
Natural wood
Brass Horse
Winsted Feed
Kens
Trac. Supply
Cities
Subway
movies

Need
24

Family Dol.
Dollar Gen.
O. Red lips
Lombard
Pr Drive in
Simply Jam
W Hill Water Sports?
Winsted Hosp Animal
Town Hall Business