

Town of Winchester - City of Winsted
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

Tuesday, November 2, 7:00 PM

2nd Floor, The Blue Room

COMMISSION

Dennis Dressel, Chairman

Deweese Yeager, Vice Chairman

Jessica Tessman, Secretary

Gary Giordano, Treasurer

Alan Colavecchio

Jill Fourie

Kevin O'Connell

Jim Welton, Alternate

David Sartirana, Alternate

Joshua Kelly, Town Manager

Jack Bourque, BOS Liaison

Linda Groppo, BOS Liaison

1. Call to Order and Roll Call - Called to order at 7:01 pm by Dennis Dressel. At the meeting was Dennis Dressel, Dewees Yeager, Jessica Tessman, Gary Giordano, Jill Fourie, Alan Colavecchio, Kevin O'Connell, David Sartirana and Town Manager Joshua Kelly.
2. Agenda Review – American Rescue Plan added to Agenda under New Business. Enterprise Zone added to New Business. Motion to approve amended agenda by, Dewees Yeager, seconded by Alan Colavecchio. Voted 6-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: October 19, 2021. Motion to approve current amended minutes by Gary Giordano as written, seconded by Dewees Yeager. Voted 6-0.
4. New Business
What's Happening in Town?
 - a) American Rescue Plan: Joshua Kelly presented on the Proposed Economic Development ARPA Allocations. The federal government announced that the Town of Winchester would receive \$3,138,260. Josh presented multiple proposed projects such as: Online Permitting Software, Remote Laptops, Town Marketing and Economic Development Activities, Director of Economic Development, Business Start-Up Fund, and the Water Quality Improvement Program.
 - b) Josh spoke on the infrastructure plan and new projects that relate to Economic Development.
 - c) Enterprise Zone: Gary reported that Winchester has an Enterprise Corridor Zone, which is designed to encourage development along Route 8 (north and south). This is provided by the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development. Gary will send the information to all commissioners.

d) Review of Betsy Paynter Meeting: Alan rescheduled the meeting with Betsy, the NWCT EDC Small Business Outreach Consultant for Friday, November 5th.

e) Review of COG Board Meeting: Dennis attended the quarterly Board of Directors meeting.

5. Communications

a) Dennis and Dewees attended a Manufacturers webinar through Advance CT. The EDC Summit in Hartford, CT will be held on Thursday, December 2, 2021.

b) Kevin will donate on the behalf of the EDC to the Youth Services Bureau.

6. Old Business

a) Vacant Storefront Window Project: Kevin suggests that the EDC think about permanent ideas such as managing a digital sign to promote town events and advertise town updates (such as the NWCCC sign).

b) Manufacturing: Dewees suggested to post more Manufacturers on the WEDC's Facebook page. Jess will help Dewees take photographs.

c) Alan connected with The Railway Café. Little Foxes Portraits and the Wine Bar are coming soon!

d) FB- Business in the Spotlight: Take photos of supporting local businesses and send to Jess!

e) Storefront Façade Contest: The Storefront Façade Contest closed on November 1st, 2021. Jess and Jill will gather the before and after photos and send them to the EDC Members. Jess will connect with Jill.

7. Adjournment – 8:26 pm motion by Dewees, seconded by Gary. Voted 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Tessman