

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

Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 7:00 PM

The Blue Room

COMMISSIONERS

Dewees Yeager, Chairman  
Dennis Dressel, Vice Chair  
Jessica Tessman, Secretary  
Gary Giordano, Treasurer  
Alan Colavecchio, Commissioner  
Shayne Deschamps, Commissioner  
Joseph Santoro, Commissioner  
John Wiarda, Alternate  
Shannon Centrella, Alternate  
Joshua Kelly, Town Manager  
Linda Groppo, BOS Liaison  
Ted Shafer, Director of Economic Development

1. Call to Order and Roll Call - Called to order at 7:00 pm by Dewees Yeager. At the meeting were Dewees Yeager, Jessica Tessman, Shayne Deschamps, Dennis Dressel, Alan Colavecchio, Joseph Santoro, John Wiarda, Shannon Centrella and guests Ted Shafer, Linda Groppo and Evan Blass.
2. Agenda Review –Motion to approve agenda by, Dennis Dressel, seconded by Shayne Deschamps. 7-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: May 2, 2023. Motion to approve the previous minutes by Shayne Deschamps, seconded by Joseph Santoro. Voted 7-0.
4. Public Comment – None reported.
5. New Business
  - a) Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies
    - a. Fairchild Industries – the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was a success!
    - b. There are multiple businesses that would like a ribbon cutting ceremony.
  - b) What's happening in Town?
    - a. Mountainside Drive – Town is seeking a developer for the property.
    - b. Main Street Parking and Safety Survey – available on the Town website.
    - c. 3 new Town employees: Zoning Enforcement Officer (Geoffrey Green), Land Use Assistant (Shane Whynott) and Assessor (Linda Volez).
    - d. Upcoming Events: Pet/Laurel Parade this Saturday, May 20 at 2 pm.
    - e. Communities Challenge Grant – Educational and traffic signage.
    - f. EDC Budget – T-Shirts ordered and business cards are underway.
    - g. Welcome to Sign (West) – To move forward, the EDC needs to seek approval from the Town Zoning, DOT and Chief of Police. Gary will retrieve two quotes (with installation and without).
    - h. Retractable Banners and sandwich signs for the EDC: estimated quote around \$1,000. Ted and Gary will follow through.

6. Communications: No communications reported.

7. Old Business

a) 2023 Job Fair

- Date: October 11, 2023
- Shayne sent the application and will follow up.
- Location: The Gilbert School, gymnasium.

b) NCCC Manufacturing Industry Advisory Meeting

- Located in Draper Hall beginning at 7:30 am on Friday May 19.
- The EDC will supply a few breakfast items.

c) EDC Social Media

- a. Jess will post the EDC Commissioners on social media and upcoming ribbon cutting ceremonies.
- b. Jess will post AMP and Pet/Laurel Parade.
- c. Gary will reach out to the owner of Mad River Lofts.
- d. Spotlight Ideas: Lapointe's (Kitchen and Bath) and the Marina.

8. Adjournment – 7:51 pm motion by Shayne Deschamps, seconded by Dennis Dressel. Voted 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica Tessman