

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

Tuesday, December 20, 2022, 7:00 PM

The Blue Room

COMMISSIONERS

Deweese Yeager, Chairman
Dennis Dressel, Vice Chair
Jessica Tessman, Secretary
Gary Giordano, Treasurer
Alan Colavecchio, Commissioner
Shayne Deschamps, Commissioner
Jill Fourie, Commissioner
Kevin O'Connell, Alternate
Joseph Santoro, Alternate
David Sartirana, 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 7:01 pm by Deweese Yeager. At the meeting was Deweese Yeager, Dennis Dressel, Alan Colavecchio, Jessica Tessman, Gary Giordano, Joseph Santoro, Shayne Deschamps and guests Ted Shafer, David Lapointe, Candace Bouchard, John Wiarda and Lance Hansen.
2. Agenda Review – Add Parking Ban and Pedestrian Crossing under New Business. Add Lance to New Business. Add Public Comment in New Business for future Agendas. Motion to approve agenda by, Shayne Deschamps, seconded by Gary Giordano. 7-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: December, 6, 2022. Add vote numbers to the minutes. Motion to approve the meeting by Dennis Dressel, seconded by Joseph Santoro. Voted 7-0.
4. New Business
 - a) Lance: 508 Main Street Discussion
 - Building is three stories, potential for parking in the rear.
 - Lance is identifying some new prospects.
 - b) Public Comment | David Lapointe:
 - Public Parking – Town of Winchester applied for a Grant focused on Transportation.
 - c) Parking Ban Notification/ Gary:
 - Suggestion: Midnight – Noon Parking Ban. Ted will discuss with Jim Rollins.
 - d) 2023 Proposed EDC Meetings are listed on the Agenda.
 - a. Motion to approve the 2023 EDC Proposed Meeting Dates by Shayne Deschamps, seconded by Joseph Santoro. Voted 7-0.

What's Happening in Town?

e) Business Updates:

- Ted, Gary, Dewees & Lance met at the Complex Sports Domain.
- The Town of Winchester website is now live!
- Town Grants:
 - Bank of America Building 2030 Grant: Social Services building.
 - Community Wide Fit Together: Working on Grants (for Mad River Recreation area and continuation of Sue Grossman. Grant promotes fitness/wellness).
 - Town is evaluating the RFP Responses; 108 E Lake Street investigation.
 - Bill K. is the new owner of 10 Bridge Street.
 - Potential new businesses coming soon! Architects are taking interest in Winsted.
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies:
 - Diner (JT's), Bar/Yoga/Hair Salon/Personal Digital Spaces.
 - Fairchild – hold until Spring

5. Communications: No communications reported.

6. Old Business:

a) EDC Business Person of the Year:

- The EDC will be removing this from the project list for the time being.

b) EDC Social Media:

- Business in the Spotlight: Alan Nero would like to meet with the social media team to discuss the new website.
- D&M Auto, Noujaim's, KidsPlay and Commissioners spotlight.
- EDC Happy Holiday post.

c) Winchester Manufacturers Breakfast:

- The Breakfast will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2023 from 7:45 AM - 9:00 AM. The location will be at the Tort Museum. 13 invitees have RSVP'd.
- Suggestion: Host a larger quarterly Manufacturers Meeting to invite other Town Manufacturers. Include hybrid meetings.

d) Shayne: Northwest CT Realty and the Gilbert School are collaborating with each other. Suggestion to connect other local businesses to the high school to give students a special experience.

e) Welcome to Winchester Signs:

- Tom H (Town Grant Coordinator) will be assisting with this project.

f) Marketing Plan: The website is being renovated.

7. Adjournment – 8:27 pm motion by Shayne Deschamps, seconded by Gary Giordano. Voted 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Tessman