

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

Tuesday, December 5, 2023, 7:00 PM

2nd Floor, The Blue Room

COMMISSION

Deweese Yeager, Chairman

Dennis Dressel, Vice Chairman

Gary Giordano, Treasurer

Jessica Tessman, Secretary

Alan Colavecchio, Commissioner

Shayne Deschamps, Commissioner

Joseph Santoro, Commissioner

TOWN OFFICIALS

Bob Geiger, Town Manager

Ted Shafer, Director of Economic Development

GUESTS: Carrie Stetson, David Sartirana

1. Call to Order and Roll Call - Called to order at 7:00 pm by Dewees Yeager. At the meeting were Dewees Yeager, Dennis Dressel, Gary Giordano, Alan Colavecchio, Joseph Santoro, and guests Ted Shafer, Carrie Stetson, and David Sartirana.
2. Agenda Review - Add Winchester 2024 Meeting Schedule to Old Business. Motion to approve amended agenda by Joseph Santoro, second by Gary Giordano. Voted 5-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: November 21, 2023, Motion to approve minutes by Dennis Dressel, as written, second by Joseph Santoro. Voted 5-0.
4. Public Comment - no public comment
5. Treasurer's Report - Continuing to work on updating records with the Town. Balance as of now is \$9,186.29. Several small items are still processing.
6. New Business
 - a) Year End Transitioning : One more meeting left in calendar year 2023, time to start thinking about 2024 initiatives and any 2023 close out items
 - b) What's Happening in Town ?
 - Ted: AMP sent out a nice email applauding Town's progress and positive spirit. Thank you AMP.
 - Ted reported on Rivery Eatery; Toby's Peruvian Restaurant, LRB, Axe Throwing, Ken's 2 Wine & Spirits; Winsted Wine & Spirits.

- Dewey: Chamber's Anthony Anthony, CT Director of Tourism held last week a very interesting event. Historic Commission meets Thursday 12/7 @ 4pm. Freezin' for a Reason is this Friday night.
 - Dewey : Need to meet with LRB to set a January ribbon cutting date. Papa's Deli will get back re-delayed ribbon cutting (as per Shayne).
 - Dave: Where does the Capitol Products Building project stand ?
- c) Marketing Plan
- Dewey & Alan met this week and are working again on the Marketing Plan & strategy. Discussion followed on marketing efforts.
 - Reboot of brand
 - Need for more input
- d) Town Website
- Alexa and Ted connected with Evan Dobos, asked for an EDC Department page to be added.
7. Communications - none reported
8. Old Business
- a) Approval of 2024 Winchester EDC Meeting Schedule. Motion to approve the schedule, as written, by Gary Giordano, second by Dennis Dressel. Voted 5-0.
- b) Welcome to Winsted sign now at the Town garage. Awaiting Town installation.
- c) 2024 Event scheduling
- Winchester Manufacturers Breakfast Meeting date will be Thursday 1/25.
 - Initial discussion on again holding a Spring EDC Business Event
 - Several possible theme topics and speakers discussed for both events.
- e) Business Visitations:
- LaPointe's Floor Covering (Gary)
 - Chelsea Gomez - Allstate Insurance (Ted)
- f) EDC Social Media/Spotlights - tabled
9. Adjournment - 8:05 pm motion by Gary Giordano, second by Dennis Dressel. Voted 5-0.