



TOWN of THOMPSON

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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Linda Paradise
TOWN CLERK, ASST

Minutes: Economic Development Commission

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Merrill Seney Room, Town Hall, 6:30 P.M.

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- I. Call to Order
 1. Chairman Brian Yacino called the meeting to order at 6:39 PM.
 2. Members Present: Tyra Penn-Gesek, H. Charles Obert, John Sharpe and Brian Yacino.
 3. Members Absent: Robert Larkin, JoAnn Hall and Brian Santos
 4. Staff Present: Diane Minarik, Recording Secretary
Mary Ann Chinatti, Director of Planning and Development
 5. Also Present: None
- II. Approval of Minutes:
 1. September 20, 2017
John Sharpe moved and Tyra Penn-Gesek seconded the motion to approve the 9/20/17 minutes as written.
Charlie Obert abstained
The motion carried.
- III. Reports:
 1. Treasurer
Still no budget in place.
 2. Update on Businesses in Town
 - a) B. Yacino stated that trade name certificates were received for Happy Transfer, Jeff of All Trades, East Coast Video and Fishers of Men Discipleship Ministry; and Milltown Grill has their liquor license.
 - b) There was a short discussion regarding the mini golf area clean up.
- IV. Citizen's Comments Pertaining to Agenda Items: None
- V. Old Business: None
- VI. New Business:
 1. Approval of 2018 Meeting Schedule
Charlie Obert moved and John Sharpe seconded the motion to approve the 2018 EDC Meeting Schedule. The motion carried unanimously.
Tyra Penn-Gesek moved and John Sharpe seconded the motion to add the following to agenda item VI: 2. Tina Fox's Resignation Letter and 3. Branding Sub-Committee. **The motion carried unanimously.**
 2. Tina Fox's Letter of Resignation
John Sharpe moved and Charlie Obert seconded the motion to accept Tina's resignation letter. The motion carried unanimously.
B. Yacino will send Tina a thank-you letter.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

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TELEPHONE (860) 923-9475 • FAX (860) 923-9897

3. Branding Sub-Committee

Charlie Obert moved and Tyra Penn-Gesek seconded the motion to establish a Branding Sub-Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

A discussion ensued regarding who should be on the committee and when the meetings will be held.

VII. Correspondence: None

VIII. Comments by Commission Members:

1. C. Obert reported on a meeting in NH he attended, a covered bridge was designed (by someone with roots to Thompson) and built for research, now they are looking to give it away, he thinks it would be perfect for Thompson and hopes to get private funding to transport to Thompson.
2. J. Sharpe asked if Johnson Corrugated has been sold yet and K. Beausoleil gave an updated to the Commission.
3. M.A. Chinatti gave an update on the River Mill Project and stated the investors took a tour of the mill; and mentioned this is the 2nd year in a row EDC will be receiving an award for Thompson's Branding Plan from CERC on 11/30/17 4:30pm-8:30pm at The Bushnell.
4. B. Santos stated the Quinn Shirt Shop renovation is still on-going and BB Pallet has a new owner and will be renovating it.
5. K. Beausoleil gave an update on how well the UCONN students are doing with their part of our Downtown Beautification Project and mentioned a memo dated 11/9/17 from him inviting the Commission to a workshop on "Fundamentals of Economic Development – A Transformational Approach" on Wed. 12/6/17 6:30pm - 8:30pm at Thompson Library.

IX. Next Meeting:

1. The next REGULAR meeting of the Commission is December 20, 2017: 6:30 pm, Merrill Seney Room, Town Hall.

X. Adjourn:

Chairman B. Yacino adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Minarik

Diane Minarik
Recording Secretary