



TOWN of THOMPSON

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Minutes: Economic Development Commission

Wednesday, July 19, 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 6:32 PM.
2. Members Present: JoAnn Hall, Robert Larkin, H. Charles Obert, Tyra Penn-Gesek, and Brian Yacino.
3. Members Absent: Brian Santos and John Sharpe.
4. Staff Present: Tina Fox, Recording Secretary
Mary Ann Chinatti, Director of Planning and Development
5. Also Present: Noel Lafayette, and Linda Jarmolowicz.

II. Approval of Minutes

1. June 21, 2017
 - a. **JoAnn Hall moved and H. Charles Obert seconded the motion to approve the June 21, 2017 meeting minutes as written. The motion carried unanimously.**

III. Reports

1. Treasurer
 - a. No budget report was provided for the month of July.
2. Update on Businesses in Town
 - a. The Commission briefly discussed Blissful Acres Wellness Center, Sweet Time Away, and Milltown Grille.

IV. Citizen's Comments Pertaining to Agenda Items: None

V. Old Business

1. Continue Discussion Regarding NECCOG Branding Study/Branding Identity Committee Meeting
 - a. The Commission discussed setting a date for the next meeting. August 21st was chosen as the next tentative meeting date.
 - b. The Commission discussed the proposed slogan from the Branding meetings, as well as various aspects of the Branding Study.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

815 RIVERSIDE DRIVE • NO. GROSVENORDALE, CONNECTICUT 06255
TELEPHONE (860) 923-9475 • FAX (860) 923-9897

VI. New Business

1. SHR Energy's Solar Project
 - a. Noel Lafayette presented a proposed solar project to the Commission.
 - b. The Commission discussed the solar project.
 - c. T. Penn-Gesek left the meeting at 8:05 PM.
 - d. **H. Charles Obert moved and JoAnn Hall seconded the motion to officially notify the Board of Selectmen, all members of the Board of Education, the Superintendent, and the Board of Finance of our interest in seeing this project move forward. The motion carried unanimously.**

VII. Correspondence: None

VIII. Comments by Commission Members

1. M. A. Chinatti stated that the UCONN students who were working on the business inventory did not complete the project. Their advisor sent the documents that had been prepared so far, and she will forward those to the Commission. The August 2nd meeting regarding the mill at 929 Riverside Dr. has been put off until October because there has been positive discussion with a developer and the property owner. M. A. Chinatti and Ken Beausoleil had a teleconference with an enthusiastic developer, and will have another teleconference the following week with multiple state agencies to discuss possible incentives and financial perks of developing the mill. The Norwich Bulletin and Thompson Villager both published articles regarding the mill.
2. B. Yacino stated that the old Quinn's Shirt shop is going forward with renovations.

IX. Next Meeting

1. The next REGULAR meeting of the Commission is August 16, 2017: 6:30 pm, Merrill Seney Room, Town Hall.

X. Adjourn

1. Chairman B. Yacino adjourned the meeting at 8:27 PM.

Tina Fox
Recording Secretary