

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

**11 RYE STREET, P.O. Box 389
BROAD BROOK, CT 06016**

Website: <http://www.eastwindsorct.com>

Regular Meeting Minutes Monday, July 15, 2013

I. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Members Present: Eric Moffett, Josh Kapelner, James Richards and Ryan Nilsson

Also in Attendance: Laurie Whitten, Town Planner

Chairman Eric Moffett called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. at the Town Hall meeting room, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

There was no public participation.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the June 17, 2013 meeting.
Richards / Nilsson / Unanimous

IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION

CERC – Nothing new to report

Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD):

Ms. Whitten distributed copies of a proposed time line for meeting dates for holding POCD workshops along with a list of tentative meeting topics. She suggested they allocate one meeting night per section. Mr. Richards felt that they would be involved with the discussions on commercial development and economic development. He noted that Commercial Development was scheduled for 12/30/2013 and Economic Development for 1/23/2014. He suggested that they could switch or combine both. He indicated that he should have his sub-committee report by the September EDC meeting. He said he is following the same

format as what was done previously. He said he has spent quite a bit of time on this.

Ms. Whitten noted that the first meeting/workshop will be a public scoping workshop and they will present all the findings from the survey and hope to get public input.

Economic Development Issues:

Mill Rates / Incentives:

The EDC members reviewed lists of mill rates from various other towns that are comparable to East Windsor in population as well as some of the corridor surrounding towns. They also reviewed a list of East Windsor's mill rate history. Mr. Richards said the main reason for doing this was to discuss whether they should be looking at incentives. Mr. Moffett questioned whether East Windsor is competitive with other towns. Mr. Richards said we are not going to compete with Windsor Locks because of the airport. Mr. Moffett said they should consider the corridor. He felt that compared to other towns, for the population we are high but for the corridor we are low. Mr. Richards said he didn't see that we are so high that we have to offer incentives. He said small businesses look at traffic flow, sign availability, how they can promote their businesses. Mr. Nilsson said they also look at income levels and population within certain areas. Mr. Moffett said he didn't think we need to do anything at this point but we have to watch it. Ms. Whitten suggested looking at it for the next 10 years and questioned whether they should be doing a study. It was agreed that this should be put on the agenda for next March for discussion.

Other Miscellaneous Economic Development Issues:

Ms. Whitten noted that the Dollar General will be coming in soon for a permit.

She informed the EDC members that we will probably be moving forward with permitting software. She said there will be a maintenance fee which includes cloud services. She said we could be reorganizing our permit fees. She suggested that for each permit we take in, we could add \$5 to pay for the maintenance and possibly for small things like decks, sheds, etc., we would combine with building permits. Overall we might be able to lower our fees. She said if we don't call everything a zoning permit, we don't have to charge the State fee.

Ms. Whitten indicated that an internet café has been approved to be located at Sofia's Plaza. She explained that this would be where you rent the computer for a certain amount of time. There would be about 50 stations.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To adjourn.

Richards / Nilsson / Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Bauer
Recording Secretary