



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
Economic Development Commission
MINUTES
November 15, 2016

The Newtown Economic Development Commission (EDC) held a regular meeting on November 15, 2016 in Meeting Room 3 at 7:00pm at the Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 06470

Members Present: Bob Rau, Wes Thompson, Matt Mihalcik, Amy Dent, Bill May, Al Roznicki, Dana Trado

Members Absent: None

Staff: None

Others Present: None

Mr. Rau called the meeting to order at 7:07pm. He asked for approval of the October meeting minutes as submitted. Mike Boyle motioned to approve the minutes, Bill May second, all in favor.

Public Participation: None

Reports:

Mr. Thompson reported on the status of the Village at Lexington Gardens regarding the tax incentive that was granted to the current property owners, Mesa Construction. He presented a resolution from the EDC granting the transfer of the current tax incentive from Mesa Construction to all new buyers of the available properties in the complex. The commission discussed the wording of the resolution as presented and decided to change the language. The commission voted to approve the resolution as submitted with the caveat that Mr. Thompson is granted the authority to change the wording of the resolution to make slight modifications so that the terms of the incentive will end at the same time period as originally granted to Mesa Construction.

Ms. Dent motioned to approve the resolution, the motion was seconded by Al Roznicki and carried by unanimous vote.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Economic Development Commission (EDC) that the business incentive as approved for Mesa Construction for the properties located at the Village at Lexington Gardens be transferred to the new owners, who buy portions of the property, under the same terms as originally approved by the EDC, Finance Commission, and Legislative Council.

Mr. Thompson reported on his work with Edmond Town Hall comprising of 6 planning sessions with a goal of breaking even in financial operations. There has been great progress toward this goal while there is some support via a town grant. Overall, operations are improving and the planning sessions have proven very successful.

Mr. May reported on his meetings with the CEO and CFO of Taunton Press to discuss their available office space in various locations within Newtown. Taunton Press will be working with commercial realtors to market the property space to potential tenants.

Ms. Dent discussed the EDC outreach to commercial realtors in order to improve the EDC ability to market the business properties that are currently available for sale or rent. She attended some meetings and learned that new construction is not appealing at this time due to cost with renovation being desirable for new businesses. It is easier to market an existing building with the primary commercial realtor agencies being Atherton, Cushman & Wakefield, and Goodfellow Ashmore.

Adjournment: With no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55pm

Respectfully submitted: Dana Trado, EDC commissioner