

Town of East Hampton
Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 21, 2022
6:30 P.M.
Town Hall 2nd Floor Meeting Room #201 and Via Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Matthew Reich, Walt Jedziniak, Ted Turner, Jase Doane (arrived at 6:53 P.M.), Jordan Higgins, and Marlene Geary (arrived at 6:39 P.M.) with Town Manager David Cox.

Absent: None

Call to Order: Chairman Reich called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M.

Approval of Minutes: *A motion was made by Mr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Jedziniak, to approve of the May 17, 2022 regular meeting minutes with no changes. Voted 4-0 in favor.*

Public Comment: None

Old Business

- a. **Update on Bells on the Bridge Project:** There was an article in the recent edition of the Events magazine promoting and spreading information for the Bells on the Bridge event. The members discussed having the participating businesses performing their own marketing for selling the bells. Social Media and local newspapers could be used to market and promote the event. Photos of the bells with a brief, concise write up could be posted on FaceBook and Instagram. The members discussed adding more businesses to participate in the event.
- b. **New Business Update/New Businesses with Planning & Zoning Approval/**
Review of P&Z Minutes: The gas station on the corner of Main Street and Route 16 was denied their variance. There were 2 Planning and Zoning Commission meetings and 1 Zoning Board of Appeals meeting for this one variance. The owner of the gas station was asking for too much for the site location. The tax incentive for Global on 66 was finalized and the storage facility is close to opening for business. The town held its sale of tax delinquent properties the previous week and ended up with taking over ownership of 13 Summit. The town has had discussions with potential developers that expressed interest in the site. The Brownfields Agency is working to clean up the property to become a developable, productive property. There was a phase one analysis performed by the previous owner and another one performed by the town.

New Business

- a. **New Signage for Business Recognition:** The members discussed getting new Welcome New Business and New Business signs to promote local businesses. The current signs could use some updating. *A motion was made by Mr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Jedziniak, to purchase the new business signs to encumber \$275 from the current budget. Voted 5-0*

in favor. The members discussed the differences for the New Business signs for storefronts vs home businesses. The signs can still go to both types of businesses easily.

b. Developing Guidance on the Business Incentive Program

1) Inquiring with Neighborhood Towns About Similar Programs: Mr. Higgins reached out to other neighboring towns. He stated that he would send the information to the other members. The members discussed updating the verbiage of the guidelines and review what the other towns use for their programs as a type of template. The state law is the authorization to let the towns have the tax incentive programs.

2) Forming Outline of Draft Guidance: A draft of language was sent to the members to review and think over any suggested changes. It was suggested to have a couple members work on the drafts as a group outside the meetings to get more completed. Mr. Reich, Mr. Jedziniak, and Mr. Turner volunteered to help draft the guidelines in the group. Their first, initial meeting will be over zoom.

Correspondence: None

Town Manager's Report: The Town Manager updated the members on the Village Center Streetscapes Improvements with a power point presentation. The town is looking into grant funding for the first phase of the project. The road is being narrowed and sidewalks widened to make both more uniform. The pattern on the sidewalks will be on the crosswalks. The memorial bricks will be used on the amenity strips of the sidewalks. There will be some work on private and public properties. Easements may be needed for the work on the private properties. A food truck space was added to the parking lot in the middle of the Village Center. Bike lanes and racks were added to accommodate the pedestrians coming from the Airline Trail. 'No Parking' signs may need to be added to areas on the side of the road where people were parking before. Green areas and landscaping will be added to places on the sidewalks. This item will be on next month's agenda.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Mr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Higgins, to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 P.M. Voted 6-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata

Recording Clerk