

**Town of East Hampton**  
**Economic Development Commission**  
**Regular Meeting**  
Tuesday, November 21, 2017  
6:30 PM  
East Hampton Town Hall

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Present:** Jack Solomon, Tim Csere, Ted Turner, Erin Hall, Kate Adams, Matthew Joseff, Michael Maniscalco (Town Manager)

**Call to order:** Chairman Solomon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

- a) *A motion was made by Mr. Csere and seconded by Mr. Turner to approve the regular meeting minutes of October 17, 2017. Voted 5-0 (Ms. Adams was not yet present during this vote.)*

Chairman Solomon welcomed new member, Matthew Joseff, at this time.

**Public Comments:** None

**Old Business**

**New Business Update:** Work is ongoing for the new Napa. Airline Cycles is moving into the Old Bank building, ECO coffee shop seems to be doing well. A new gift shop named Frill has opened next to Subway.

There was discussion about Fat Orange Cat brewery, which is relocating within East Hampton, and whether they would or could partner with an area restaurant.

There was discussion at this time of a coupon book for East Hampton businesses. This could be distributed at events as well as be available at businesses in town that attract people from out of town. Mr. Csere will see if Essex Printing can do this.

*Ms. Hall moved and Mr. Turner seconded to move forward with a coupon book that represents East Hampton businesses and will be available at places where out of towners frequent. Voted 6-0.*

*Discussion: Budget will be looked at as well as attracting businesses to participate.*

**Belltown Spotlight on Business:** Mr. Csere is having a hard time reaching Sports on 66 and Ms. Hall is having a hard time reaching LBC Marine. Chairman Solomon will reach out to Sports on 66 as he has a connection.

Total Auto Mart on Rt. 66 is being sold and Sam, the owner, is retiring after many years of serving the EH community. The EDC would like to recognize him with a

proclamation, which will be adapted from the Belltown Spotlight on Business proclamation.

*Mr. Turner moved to create a proclamation from the EDC to honor Sam at Total Auto Mart upon his retirement. Ms. Hall seconded. Voted 6-0.*

*Mr. Turner moved that the Belltown Spotlight Business for the month be ECO Coffee shop for Nov/Dec. Ms. Adams seconded. Voted 6-0.*

Mr. Turner will move the sign. There was discussion on recognizing Stop & Shop at some point. There was discussion on businesses that do not have a store front. They can have a photo in front of the Town Hall and may move their sign around if they work in visible areas (like a contractor would). The list of upcoming spotlighted businesses will be on the bottom of the agenda in the future.

**Commission Members' Business Outreach Reports:** A map was passed around; EDC members signed up for a territory of town for outreach.

### **New Business**

**Approval of 2018 Meeting Dates:** *Ms. Hall moved to approve the 2018 meeting dates. Second by Mr. Csere. Voted 6-0.*

**Spring Business Showcase Event:** Mr. Turner will approach the Congregational Church to find out their availability to host on one of the last two Saturdays in April. Center School will be a back up site. There was discussion on partnering with other entities such as Park & Rec or other organizations in town to make this more of a community event. Ms. Hall will reach out.

**Town Manager's Report:** Mr. Maniscalco distributed drafts of the Tax Increment Financing District plan (TIF). This will be going to the Town Council for review. He asked EDC members to take a look at how the funds from the TIF district could be utilized and if there are any suggestions to send them to Jeremy DeCarli.

The cleaning out of 1 Watrous St. is almost complete. Two interesting finds were a 1920s player piano and a 1980s Porsche. It may be possible to get this property back on the tax rolls as the building is pretty structurally sound. The building is 20,000 Sq. Ft., has natural gas, parking, sewer and water from the Village Center. Mr. Maniscalco's hope is to have a RFP for the general public; it could be a great restaurant, apartments, etc..

13 Watrous St., which is a town-owned Brownfield site, is close to completion. The house next door at 4 Starr has an easement to get its drinking water from that well. Money from the State grant will be used to dig a new well for this property and for them to give up the easement to 13 Watrous. This could be a good parking lot for 1 Watrous.

Mr. Csere asked about state budget impacts. The Governor reduced the town's funding by another \$600,000 making our total cut somewhere around 1.2 million. This may change in the legislature. Enough money will be made from the tax sale to make it so that no supplemental tax bill will go out.

**Public Comments:** Walt Jedziniak of Walt Jedziniak Photography stated that he is partnering with the Bevin House for 15 minute Santa sessions on Dec. 3. Donations will go to the Food Bank and Epoch Arts. He stated that he could do head shots for a charitable donation for the Spring business event. He suggested a year-long campaign to keep locals shopping in town with a year-end incentive, like a gift card for patronizing all businesses that year.

**Adjournment:** *Chairman Solomon adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m..*

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza LoPresti  
Recording Clerk