

**Town of East Hampton**  
**Economic Development Commission**  
**Regular Meeting**  
Tuesday, June 16, 2020  
6:30 P.M.  
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

MINUTES

**Present:** Chairman Ted Turner, Tim Csere, Robin Letourneau, Walt Jedziniak, and Matthew Reich (left at 7:00PM).

**Absent:** Christopher Ott

**Call to Order:** Chairman Turner called the meeting to order at 6:31 P.M.

**Approval of Minutes:** *A motion was made by Mr. Csere, seconded by Mr. Jedziniak, to approve of the May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 regular meeting minutes with no changes. Voted 5-0 in favor.*

*A motion was made by Mr. Csere, seconded by Ms. Letourneau, to approve of the May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 special meeting minutes with no changes. Voted 5-0 in favor.*

**Public Comments:** None

**Planning & Zoning: Potential Development of Home Occupation Regulations:**

- a) **Preliminary Discussion with Planning & Zoning Chairman:** Planning and Zoning is looking into creating a new regulation to help people working from home due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There are no home-based regulations in East Hampton. People have looked into coming to town to purchase property and/or houses to bring their businesses into the community. Some home-based businesses fly under the radar while others are more prominent and are operating illegally. This new regulation will be able to help people establish a legal home-based business. It could also help to grow the home-based businesses to benefit the town and community. Planning and Zoning's goal for this regulation is to be pro-business. There are steps to creating a regulation like this for the town. First, information needs to be gathered about a regulation of this type. A conversation with the EDC members and a few others would be held. This step will also involve figuring out what is allowed and not allowed under the new regulation. Then, a workshop to discuss and craft the language for the regulation would be the next step. The regulation needs to be presented to the Town Council to have a public hearing. And once the Town Council has approved of the regulation and fifteen days have passed; the regulation will be enacted in the town.

**Old Business:**

- a) **Business Package Promotion & Tourism:** A copy of the brochure has been sent to the printer. All the changes and updates discussed by the members were sent as well. An email containing the updated brochure was sent to the members to review and suggest any changes if need be. If some businesses want to be in the brochure, they can be added to the

next issue that will be printed. The members discussed adding the new town hall information and directory into the brochure as well. The Business of the Month businesses will be listed on its own section of the brochure. It was suggested to have any business that contacts the town hall asking to be added to the brochure be accumulated for the EDC monthly meetings.

**b) New Business Update/New Businesses with Planning & Zoning**

**Approval/Review of P&Z Minutes:** The members reviewed and discussed the P&Z minutes and approvals.

**c) New Business Banner Locations:** The banner is not with any business. The banner will be going to Sweet Jeans. The members discussed the need for a 'New Business' sandwich board sign. Quotes for the sign will be brought to the next meeting.

**d) Belltown Spotlight on Business:** The sign is at Belltown Motors. The members need a picture with the owner for the article that will go into the Rivereast and Events magazine. *A motion was made by Mr. Turner, seconded by Ms. Letourneau, to nominate Fat Orange Cat for the month of July. Voted 4-0 in favor.*

**e) Town Beautification:** The members discussed possibly displaying the painted rocks created by the children in a cement wall. This needs to be discussed with the director of Parks & Rec. It was also suggested to have a rock wall built somewhere in town. This topic was tabled to the next meeting.

**New Business:** The members discussed the steps a business needs to go through to open within the town. There is a step by step explanation of what the businesses coming into town needs to do to obtain permits and approvals on the town website.

**Town Manager's Report:** The Town Council approved the town's budget last night. The EDC budget will be \$5,400 for the next fiscal year. The Town Council made some strategic cutbacks around \$30,000. This brought some jobs back into the town, like a new teacher for the school system and a new young adult librarian for the library. The mill rate will not change next year. The property taxes are coming up and due to the pandemic, a few things have changes. If someone becomes delinquent on their tax payment the interest rate will be .25% instead of the usual amount. The move into the new Town Hall has been completed and everyone is settling into their offices. Next week, the Town Hall will be opening for public use. The building may also be open for town meetings as well. The plan is to have the Town Council hold their July meeting in the new building. There is no news on bringing water to the town. That has been put on the back burner since the pandemic arrived.

**Public Comment:** None

**Adjournment:** *A motion was made by Mr. Csere, seconded by Ms. Letourneau, to adjourn the meeting at 7:49PM. Voted 4-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata  
Recording Clerk