



# Town of Burlington

## **MINUTES OF MEETING VIA ZOOM CONFERENCING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024 AT 7:00PM**

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04PM. In attendance were Kevin Bair, Bryan Cassidy, Vince Lambri, Judi Ann Lausier, JP Parente, and Tod Kallenbach.
- II. Public Comment: There were no members of the public in attendance.
- III. Review/Approve minutes of January 8 meeting: Motion to approve by Parente; seconded by Bair; abstention by Lausier; unanimously approved.
- IV. Nomination of officers for 2024: Kallenbach noted that this agenda item was accidentally included as nominations of officers occurred during the January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting.
- V. Updates on business/property developments: Kallenbach mentioned that he was contacted by Tom Hill of Tom Hill Realty & Investment, about the property sale of 517-521-525 Burlington Road, Harwinton, CT, which includes Countryside Sports Center, Countryside Pizza, and the former Landing Zone Pub. EDC members discussed that because the three listed properties were all located in Harwinton, there was little that the EDC could assist with.
- VI. Lausier asked if there were any updates on a parcel of land owned by the Town of Burlington on Stafford Road. Cassidy mentioned that he recalled discussions at a Board of Selectman's meeting from a few months ago but has heard nothing new since.
- VII. Updates on grant funding opportunities: Cassidy mentioned that the Website Design Committee meeting scheduled for January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, was cancelled; however, progress continues to be made on the webpage towards migration to the updated version.
- VIII. Updates on business support/events: Parente provided an overview of the draft of the "Starting a New Business Checklist". EDC members discussed formatting and confirming information within the document, such as phone numbers still being accurate. Kallenbach recommended that EDC members should send any

redlined changes to Parente so he can incorporate them into the next draft.

Parente discussed the history of blight ordinances referendums, along with why residents wanted it, reasons against it, and the outcomes of previous referendums. Lambri asked if a blight ordinance requires a referendum, in which Parente confirmed that it is required. Lambri recommended asking if Jerry Burns, Zoning Enforcement Officer, could attend the next EDC meeting to further discuss the blight ordinance.

EDC members discussed planning of Tavern Day 2024 which is scheduled for Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 11:00am to 4:00pm. Parente mentioned that the Burlington Chamber of Commerce will be responsible for planning the business expo portion of the event while the Tavern Day Committee will focus on the event itself.

Lambri provided an update of the Taste of Burlington event in which he mentioned discussions are still occurring on handling Burlington Chamber of Commerce members vs. non-members.

- IX. New Business: Lambri provided an update based on recent discussions he had with First Selectman Thompson regarding Earth Day and mentioned that the Town of Burlington will be providing \$1,500 in funds to support planned events. Lambri provided an update regarding the sidewalk project in the center of town which he mentioned has been held up by the Connecticut Department of Transportation. EDC members discussed potentially sending a letter to the Connecticut Department of Transportation in favor of moving forward with the project to help allow for more economic growth in the town with the development of Library Lane.

Lambri mentioned that he spoke with Pranav Patel and noted that he is preparing to submit plans for a new building located next to 276 Spielman Hwy, Burlington, CT 06013 (Burlington Spirit Shoppe).

- X. Adjourn: Motion for adjournment by Bair; seconded by Lausier; meeting adjourned at 7:58pm