

**Town of Seymour
Economic Development Commission**

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DATE: 3/12/12
TIME: 2:33pm
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

**Minutes
Tuesday, March 6, 2012 – 6:30 PM
Flaherty Room – Seymour Town Hall**

Members present: Jon Szuch, Rosalie Averill, Michael Horbal, Ted Holly, Ron Balabon Marietta Sabetta and Kathleen Conroy-Cass.

Also present: Fred Messore, Economic Development Director, Maryanne DeTullio, Recording Secretary

ITEM #1 Call Meeting to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chairman Jon Szuch.

ITEM #2 Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Jon Szuch.

ITEM #3 First Selectman Comments

First Selectman Kurt Miller was not present.

ITEM #4 Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes – February 7, 2012 and February 28, 2012 Meetings.

Mrs. Averill moved to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2012 meeting with the following changes – Page 1 Item #5 should be that the forms be submitted to the Town Clerk. Also on Page 1 second line from the bottom should read “all” applicants. Page 5 second paragraph, third line should be Board of Finance instead of they. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sabetta and carried unanimously (7-0).

Mrs. Averill moved to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2012 meeting with the following change – Page 1, Item #3, second paragraph should be 2007 MEDP. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sabetta and carried unanimously.

Item #5 Economic Development Director's Report – Fred Messore

Mr. Messore presented his report to the Commission. He stated that he presented his budget to the Board of Finance. He stated that a check was delivered for the Cultural Arts Commission from the Strand Theater for a fundraiser that was performed there. He stated that he attended several meetings. He met with the State DOT twice. Mr. Messore stated that he is in the process of identifying areas to place the “Welcome to Seymour” signs. He stated that has been finalized and at all the gateways coming into Seymour will have the signs. He stated that he hopes to use the grant that was awarded in 2011 for that. Mrs. Averill asked if the State has the final say on where they go. Mr. Messore stated that the majority of the major roads in town are State roads so they have to identify where on the right of way the sign could be placed. He stated that he identified areas that are very visible and will show the town in a proper light. He stated that the grant was originally to do better signage for the industrial park but the State would not allow him to put those signs in certain areas. He stated that he will use the industrial park signs in some areas. He stated that he identified several

locations and some will be two sided and will be welcome to on one side and thank you on the other. The total grant was \$37,000.00 and part was for consultant fees but he is doing that work.

Mr. Messore stated that he and the First Selectman met with representative from Slickbar. He stated that they are close to signing a lease but he did not know where they are relocating to. He stated that they want to be closer to the shore and need a more modern and efficient building. Mr. Horbal asked if they experienced any flood damage. Mr. Messore stated that he did not know and they did not indicate where they are going.

Mr. Horbal asked Mr. Messore to put the dates that he attends a meeting on his report.

ITEM #6 Public Comments

There was no one from the public present at the meeting.

ITEM #7 – DARP Updates

Mr. Messore stated that the meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 9, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at Town Hall. He stated that property owners in that area have been invited to attend but the letters were sent out from the First Selectman's office and he did not know exactly who was invited. Mr. Messore stated that he will attend and any member of the Commission is invited to attend. He stated that it will be an open discussion with the property owners and hopefully get their feedback. Mrs. Averill stated that a good question to ask them would be if anyone approached them as to the feasibility of selling their property. Mr. Messore stated that they may not want to disclose that. Mrs. Averill stated that she felt it may be important to know that.

ITEM #8 – EDC Chairman's Report.

Mr. Szuch stated that he did not have anything to report on.

ITEM #9 – Old Business

Mrs. Averill asked what the reaction was from the Board of Finance to the budget. Mr. Messore stated that the large item was taken out of his budget and put into capital improvement project. Mr. Szuch stated that everyone was very complimentary as to what the Commission has done. They recognized that the Commission had limited resources for a number of years. Nothing negative was said and appreciated the dedication that was done. He stated that they were very supportive.

Mr. Messore stated that his budget of approximately \$400,000. was less than 1% of the town's overall budget. He stated that he tried to get that across. He felt that it went very well and he did his best to make sure it is funded appropriately.

ITEM #10 – New Business

Mr. Messore stated that he wanted to discuss the Planimetrics agreement. He stated that the contract has been reviewed by the town council. He made a change and had the mediation section removed. That was taken out and the town council recommended that it go to the Board of Selectmen for approval. Mr. Messore stated that he will attend that meeting to answer any questions that they may have. Hopefully it will be approved and the First Selectman can sign it. Mr. Messore asked that the Commission approve, on the condition that it is approved by the Board of Selectmen, the funds for this project. Mrs. Averill moved that the Chairman be authorized to execute a purchase order for \$10,000.00 under the assumption that the Board of Selectmen acts on the contract this evening and approves the contract for professional services between Planimetrics and the Town of Seymour. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sabetta.

Mr. Horbal asked if Section 1.2 needs to be in the contract. Mr. Szuch stated that he felt that it should be in there. He stated that nothing else could be done until the new fiscal year. Mr. Horbal stated that he did not like that clause without knowing what might be changed or how much it would cost and where the funds would come from. Mr. Szuch stated that this has already been reviewed and approved by town council. Mr. Szuch stated that could not be done without mutual agreement between the town and Planimetrics. Mr. Horbal also questioned Section 3.5 and Mr. Szuch stated that Mr. Messore represents the interest of the Town. Mr. Horbal stated that if there is some need for change in this does it only go through the First Selectman or does it come to the Commission. Mr. Szuch felt that it would be discussed with the First Selectman and Mr. Messore who will come back and report to the Commission. Mr. Szuch stated that this needs to be signed and it has already been approved by the town council. Mr. Szuch stated that the Commission is voting on allocating the funds.

Mr. Horbal asked if Mr. Messore knew who were the boards and commission would be invited in Task 2. Mr. Messore stated that he did not know. Mr. Horbal felt that all land use boards and the fire and police should be invited. Mr. Messore stated that this Commission will be involved in this project and there will be meetings between Planimetrics and the Board.

The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Szuch stated that the Commission needs to set the date for the meeting with Planimetrics. Mr. Messore stated that they gave him several dates and the consensus seems to be March 27th for the first meeting with Planimetrics. Mrs. Averill moved that the Commission schedule a special meeting for March 27th 2012 at 6:30 p.m. with Planimetrics for implementation of the project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holly and carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Messore stated that potential public meeting dates are in April. He stated that if the Commission would like to decide this tonight he can let Planimetrics know what date the Commission chose. Mr. Messore stated that they are suggesting April 24th and any Monday or Tuesday into May. Mr. Messore stated that the only thing he needs is the

date. The Commission decided on April 24, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Szuch recommended that they have the meeting at either the middle or high school.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Holly, seconded by Ms. Sabetta and carried unanimously (7-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Jon Szuch.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryanne DeTullio, Recording Secretary