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**Town of Seymour
Economic Development Commission
Minutes
Tuesday, September 1, 2015 – 6:30 PM
Flaherty Room - Seymour Town Hall**

Members presents: Marietta Sabetta, Michael Horbal, Rosalie Averill, Christine Ailman, Alex Danka. Also present Bill Paecht, ZEO, Pat Lombardi

ITEM #1 Call Meeting to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Vice Chairman Marietta Sabetta.

ITEM #2 Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice Chairman Marietta Sabetta.

ITEM #3 First Selectman Comment.

First Selectman Kurt Miller was not in attendance at the meeting.

ITEM #4 Public Comments

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

ITEM #5 Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes –July 7 , 2015.

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2015 meeting was made by Mr. Horbal, seconded by Mrs. Averill and carried unanimously (5-0).

Ms. Averill moved to go out of order on the agenda and move Item #7 next. The motion was seconded by Mr. Danka and carried unanimously.

ITEM #7 – Parking signs for downtown parking lots update.

Pat Lombardi stated that he handles parking enforcement in the downtown business district for a little over four years. He stated that improvements have been made to the parking areas with additional lighting at some lots and additional spaces at the Trestle lot. Mr. Lombardi stated that he looked at the P1 through P5 parking areas in the business district to find the best location at each lot for the signs. He stated that he was not sure about the zoning regulations regarding the size of the signs. Mr. Horbal stated that the Town is exempt from zoning regulations regarding the size of the signs. Mr. Paecht, ZEO stated that any sign on State property would need to be approved by the State and the signs cannot block sight lines. Mr. Lombardi stated that the parking areas at P4 and P5 would not create any problems with the signs blocking sight lines. He stated that with P3 the Strand lot there are not a lot of options as to where the sign can be placed. There are a lot of signs in that area and he suggested an area where it could possibly be placed. He also indicated possible location for the sign at the P2 lot which is near the train station. This would have to be approved by the State. Mr. Lombardi stated that P1, the trestle lot has approximately 20+ spaces and an additional six spaces were created after the lot was reconfigured and lighting added at this location. The lot is owned by MetroNorth and under contract to the Town of Seymour. This is another location that has a lot of signs already and there are not a lot of options

for the parking sign. It could possibly be placed below the existing sign on the same pole. Mr. Lombardi stated that he would be happy to walk the areas with any member to consider locations for the signs. Mr. Horbal asked who applies for approval from the State and Mr. Messore stated that the Town will handle that.

Mr. Danka stated that he felt that the funds encumbered for the signs is excessive for five signs. It was noted that the proposal does not indicate whether installation is included.

Mrs. Averill moved that the Commission move forward on the parking signs for lots P4 and P5 and discuss with NuAge the logistics and get approval for the signs; and clarify whether installation is included. The motion was seconded by Mr. Horbal. Ms. Ailman asked whether all five signs were covered by the encumbered funds. Ms. Sabetta stated that the funds are for five signs for five parking areas but only doing P4 and P5 at this time. She stated that it was the goal to have the signs done before the Pumpkin Festival but the Commission did not meet in the summer and also needs to get approval from the State. Mr. Danka was concerned that the funds will not cover all the signs and the installation is not included. Mr. Horbal stated that the signage is a good thing for the parking areas and the need for parking in the downtown area is one of the biggest problems in that area. Ms. Sabetta stated that the Commission had to get a proposal for the signs but did not know the size or location so it is an estimated proposal. Mrs. Averill stated that she did not think that the proposal includes installation since we did not know where the signs would be located. Mr. Messore stated that installation would significantly increase the cost. Mr. Danka felt that a firm price should be obtained for all five signs and also get proposals from other companies. Mr. Messore asked if the signs will be one sided or two sided. Mrs. Averill stated that it depends on where the sign is going to be located which will determine whether it is one sided or two sided. Mr. Messore stated that he is an advocate for this project but does have some concerns. He felt that the Commission should determine if installation is included and if necessary he will assist in getting additional funds if needed. He stated that this is the Commission's project but he can help in getting the State approval. Mr. Danka stated that he would feel more comfortable getting proposals from other companies. The motion was defeated 4-1.

Mr. Danka moved to start the project and go forward getting proposals for all five signs and then decide how many can be done. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ailman and carried 4-1. Mr. Danka will work on getting proposals from other companies.

ITEM #6 Economic Development Director Update

Mr. Messore presented his report for July and August (copy attached). He stated that in the policy of the tax incentive program it states that EDC should review applications. He included the application for the property at 770B Derby Avenue for the Commission to review. Mr. Horbal stated that he will abstain from discussing this. Mr. Messore stated that the warehouse building is completed and it is a nice project. The application will also be presented to the Assessor and Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Horbal asked about the outstanding electric bill at Lopresti School and Mr. Messoro stated that the Board of Education was continuing to receive the bills post sale and he contacted the developer/purchaser to make sure that the account was transferred into his name. He stated that he received complaints that some of the Adopt-A-Spot locations were not being properly maintained. He stated that he contacted the sponsors and made them aware that the maintenance of the sites were their responsibility. Mr. Messoro stated that included in his report are the results of the on-line survey that was conducted for the update to the Plan of Conservation and Development.

ITEM #8 – EDC Chairman's Report – No Report

ITEM #9 – Old Business – None

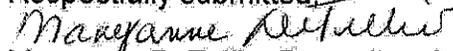
ITEM #10 – New Business – None

ITEM #11 – Correspondence – None

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Averill, seconded by Mr. Danka and carried unanimously (5-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. by Vice Chairman Marietta Sabetta.

Respectfully submitted,


Maryanne DeTullio, Recording Secretary