Mr. Casner called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. He sat Ms. Smith for Mr. Weissbach.

Minutes – The Commissioners reviewed the minutes from the December 1, 2016 meeting.

MS. SMITH MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. PARADY, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 1, 2016 REGULAR MEETING AS WRITTEN. UNANIMOUS AYE.

OLD BUSINESS

Status Reports:

1. EDC Chairman Update
   i. EDC Coordinator Position – Mr. Casner reported that he and First Selectman Lyman met with the First Selectwoman of Haddam regarding sharing the EDC Coordinator position. He noted that both towns have budgeted for a 12-15 hour position and consequently agreed that they could attract higher quality individuals with a 30 hour position. He noted that they subsequently reviewed seven applications and that the interviewing group will meet again on April 18th to either make a decision or narrow the field. He indicated that they hope to have the new EDC Coordinator in place by June 1st.

   ii. Scenic Easement Application – Goodspeed Airport – Mr. Casner reported that owner agreed to make a number of Town requested changes in his Scenic Easement application. He advised that CT DEEP will hold the easement. He stated that the owner has reserved the right to allow public access to the property, and construction of a boardwalk and small boat dock on the property once the airport is closed.

      Mr. Casner noted that everyone accepts the outcome of the negotiations and he feels the Town’s relationship with the property owner is now in a better place than it was several years ago.

   iii. Update on Zoning IG Zone – IG Zone Line Change (Shagbark Area) - Mr. Casner reported that EDC had submitted a request to the Planning & Zoning Commission to modify the IG boundaries in the Shagbark area and reviewed a map showing the proposal for re-drawing the lines. He advised that P&Z approved EDC’s application. Mr. Casner responded to several questions from the Commissioners.

2. First Selectmen’s Report – Mr. Lyman was not in attendance at this meeting, consequently, no report was made.

3. Goodspeed Landing Committee – Mr. Casner reported that he received information from the police regarding the average speed at the Lumberyard Road/Main Street intersection. He stated he will forward the information to Mr. Nemergut to see if there are any remedies that could improve the sightlines and traffic flow. There was a general discussion regarding Goodspeed’s plans and the future development of the Town Office site regarding any impact they would have on the intersection.

MS. SMITH MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. PARADY, TO CHANGE THE ORDER OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA TO MOVE UP THE DISCUSSIONS, UNDER NEW BUSINESS, REGARDING THE TAX INCENTIVE APPLICATIONS FROM JAD PROPERTY HOLDING AND 16 RAE PALMER ROAD, LLC. UNANIMOUS AYE.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Tax Incentive Program
   i. Staehly Farm – Mr. Casner recognized Mr. Chris Staehly who reviewed the planned expansion of the Staehly Farm business and their desire for a tax incentive. There was a general discussion regarding the benefits of
Staehly Farm to the Town through employment and attracting tourism. Mr. Staehly responded to several questions from the Commissioners. He agreed to keep the Commissioners informed regarding the expansion project and to update his application when he has solid financial information.

ii. 16 Rae Palmer Road, LLC – Mr. Casner recognized Mr. John Kananowicz who reviewed his plans for purchasing a property in Moodus for a spin-cycle/karate/exercise studio. He noted that he and his wife may also renovate the second floor for short-term rental office/meeting space. In response to a question from Mr. Kananowicz, Mr. Casner advised that it would be very difficult to have the Town waive any permitting fees. Mr. Kananowicz responded to several questions from the Commissioner.

MR. PARADY MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MS. SMITH, TO ACCEPT 16 RAE PALMER ROAD, LLC’S TAX INCENTIVE APPLICATION. UNANIMOUS AYE.

OLD BUSINESS

4. Agriculture Committee – There was no update on this agenda item.

5. Tourism Committee –
   i. Spring Weekend with Haddam – Mr. Casner advised that the Spring Weekend has been cancelled and the Fall Weekend date has not yet been set.
   ii. East Haddam News/INK – Business Profiles – There was no update on this agenda item
   iii. Business Brochure – Ms. Smith provided the Commissioners with an update on revisions to the Visitors Guide and noted that the project is progressing well. She advised that she will present a list of businesses that responded to EDC’s outreach letter regarding a listing in the Guide at the May 4th EDC meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Mail Received – Mr. Casner advised that EDC received a letter from the Planning & Zoning Commission requesting an opportunity to meet with EDC to discuss any input the Commissioners have for the scheduled update of the Plan of Conservation & Development. He stated that this item would be added to EDC’s May 4th Regular Meeting agenda.

5. Pay Bills – There were no bills paid.

6. Tax Incentive Program
   i. Staehly Farm – This item was discussed earlier in the meeting and is reported on above in these minutes.
   ii. 16 Rae Palmer Road LLC – This item was discussed earlier in the meeting and is reported on above in these minutes.

7. Review proposed EDC 2017-18 budget – There was a general discussion regarding EDC’s proposed 2017/2018 budget and the consensus was in favor of the submitted budget. No further action was taken on this agenda item.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional public comment at the meeting.

OTHER, EDC ORDINANCE REVISION

THERE R NO ADDITIONAL BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, MR. STAELHY MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. PARADY, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. UNANIMOUS AYE.

The regular meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Sharon R. Wheeler
Recording Secretary