

East Haddam Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2017

Attending: D. Bergeron; R. Casner; R. Parady; S. Smith

Absent: J. Albuquerque; P. Rubenbauer; R. Snow; K. Staehly; F. Weissbach

Guests: C. Brownell; J. Curtin; B. Gillis; L. Salicrup; L. Salicrup

Mr. Casner called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. He sat Ms. Smith for Mr. Weissbach.

Minutes – The Commissioners reviewed the minutes from the May 4, 2017 meeting.

MR. BERGERON MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MS. SMITH, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 4, 2017 REGULAR MEETING AS WRITTEN. UNANIMOUS AYE.

OLD BUSINESS

Status Reports:

1. **EDC Chairman Update**

A. EDC Coordinator Position – Mr. Casner reported that East Haddam/Haddam's first choice for the joint EDC Coordinator position rejected their offer and, therefore, the towns agreed to offer the position to the next highest ranking applicant.

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 the Board of Selectmen reactivated the East Haddam Village Revitalization Committee (EHVRC) and its initial charge will be to work on the old Town Office site. He stated that he was appointed to the Committee as the EDC representative and advised that the Committee had met and requested EDC fund and oversee the soil testing on the site in conjunction with the Town's Facilities Manager, Ron Turner, and First Selectmen Lyman.

MR. PARADY MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. BERGERON, TO HIRE A CONSULTING ENGINEER, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.00, TO CHECK THE SOIL UNDER THE OLD TOWN HIGHWAY GARAGE BUILDING FOR CONTAMINATION. THE FIRM SHALL DO APPROPRIATE DRILLING AND TESTING AND REPORT THEIR FINDINGS TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION. THE CONTRACT IS TO BE APPROVED WITHIN 30 DAYS AND FUNDED OUT OF THE 2016-2017 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BUDGET. UNANIMOUS AYE.

4. **Tourism Committee**

A. Fall Weekend – Mr. Casner reported that he met with the tourism committees for East Haddam and Haddam who informed him that East Haddam has set Columbus Day weekend, October 7th and 8th, as the dates for their Fall Weekend and Haddam has scheduled theirs for September 9th (rain date September 10th). He advised that he had also spoken with representatives of the Essex Steam Train who agreed to run the Haddam Express for East Haddam's event. He noted that Staehly Farms has activities planned for the Fall Weekend. Ms. Smith recommended seeking the commitment of other businesses to also plan activities for the weekend.

B. Business Brochures – 2017/2018 – Ms. Smith distributed copies of the new Visitors Guide. Mr. Casner thanked her for heading the committee and producing a beautiful brochure and noted that he has received many compliments on the quality of the new guide. Ms. Smith thanked Mr. Staehly for his assistance on the project. She noted that the committee will distribute the brochures around Town and to nearby tourist locations.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Engineering of Sidewalks at Major Intersections** – Mr. Casner stated that the intersection at Routes 82, 151 and 434 (Mt. Parnassus Road) is a busy corner and sidewalks would make the area much safer. There was a general discussion regarding the installation of sidewalks in several areas.

MOTION MADE BY MR. BERGERON, SECONDED BY MS. SMITH, TO HIRE AN ENGINEERING CONSULTANT, FOR A FEE NOT TO EXCEED \$5,000.00, TO (A) DESIGN A SIDEWALK IN THE AREA OF THE INTERSECTION AT ROUTES 82, 151 AND 434 (MT. PARNASSUS ROAD) BEGINNING AT SHAGBARK'S WEST DRIVEWAY AND CONTINUING TO THE GREIDER PROPERTY ON ROUTE 151 (TOWN STREET); THE DESIGN SHOULD INCLUDE CROSSWALKS TO TOWN TAVERN ON ROUTE 151 AND THE LION'S SKATING POND ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF ROUTE 434, AND (B) REVIEW THE INTERSECTION AT ROUTE 82 AND CREAMERY ROAD TO SEE IF SIDEWALKS COULD IMPROVE PUBLIC SAFETY IN THAT AREA. UNANIMOUS AYE.

2. Mail Received – Mr. Casner advised that he had received an email from Ron Snow stating he was resigning from the Economic Development Commission.

MOTION MADE BY MR. CASNER, SECONDED BY MR. BERGERON, TO FORWARD, WITH REGRET, RONALD SNOW'S NOTICE OF RESIGNATION FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN FOR ACCEPTANCE. UNANIMOUS AYE

3. Pay Bills – Mr. Casner advised that the Essex Printing Company has submitted a bill for \$1,694.04 for design work and printing the Visitors' Guide.

MOTION MADE BY MR. PARADY, SECONDED BY MS. SMITH, TO PAY THE ESSEX PRINTING COMPANY \$1,694.04. UNANIMOUS AYE.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional public comment at the meeting.

THERE BEING NO ADDITIONAL BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, MR. BERGERON MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MS. SMITH, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. UNANIMOUS AYE.

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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