

## **EDC REGULAR MEETING**

Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 5:30pm

Via Zoom Meeting

Approved Minutes

*(Approved July 6, 2021)*

**Call to Order:** Brett Mastroianni called the meeting to order at 5:34pm.

**Members in Attendance:** Brett Mastroianni, Nicole Porter, Salvatore Cherenzia and Jennifer Dayton.

**Members absent:** Paul Simonds, Will Mason, Stefan Grufstedt, Jennifer Anderson, Jennifer Strunk (alternate), Anthony Mazzella (alternate).

**Staff present:** J. Hodge joined at 6:30pm.

**Public Present:** Nita Kincaid, Selectwoman, Mike Uργο, First Selectman.

**Public Comment:** Mike Uργο stated he was very sorry to see Juliet Hodge leave her position as PZDO. M. Uργο did say Juliet would be staying on with reduced hours until August to help out the town. Brett Mastroianni stated he would like to sit down with M. Uργο and L. Steinbrecher to discuss the hiring process for the next PZDO.

**Additions to the Agenda:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** Accepted after a small edit.

**Treasurer's Report:** No recent or new transactions.

**PDZO Report:** None given.

### **New Business:**

- a. **Local Business Resources/Issues:** B. Mastroianni stated he would like to work on a presentation for the Board of Selectman on how to best assist our local businesses, including a more accurate dollar amount that would be beneficial to them. B. Mastroianni suggested putting together an EDC sub-committee to work on this research and presentation. M. Uργο stated he agrees with this approach but that the sub-committee should act quickly.
- b. **End of Year Budget Status/Expenditures:** EDC has an outstanding project that we had voted to dedicate \$500 for the Route 2 business walk-way. The EDC will then have \$3,688 not spent that it was suggested to give back to the town for the Undesignated Fund. There was a motion made and seconded (S. Cherenzia/N. Porter) to give back the unspent money. Motion passed 4-0.
- c. **Future Meeting Access:** As of the week of June 14<sup>th</sup>, all town meetings are approved to be in person. July 30<sup>th</sup>, the Governor's Executive Order ends. There was a discussion about whether to continue with hybrid meetings. It was agreed that it is best practice to hold meetings in person, but we can't prevent someone from attending electronically. Our next EDC meeting will be on July 6<sup>th</sup> and will be in person at the Media Center in the old Middle/High School building at 298 Norwich-Westerly Rd.

### **Old Business:**

- a. **Update on PZDO:** M. Uργο will be looking for representatives from Planning and Zoning and Economic Development Committees to take part in the hiring process of the new PZDO.

- b. Update on Workforce Development: There are no new developments. Negotiations with a private party are on-going confidentially with the Board of Selectman. We are waiting to hear results from those negotiations before moving forward with any community college IT project.
- c. Follow up on American Rescue Relief Funds: The Board of Selectman had a meeting with all boards and commissions to brainstorm ideas on what to use the funds for. B. Mastroianni and J. Hodge will come up with a more accurate dollar amount so M. Urgo can bring this forward to the Board of Selectman.

**Motion to adjourn at 6:26 pm (S. Cherenzia/N. Porter) Motion carried 4-0.**

Next EDC meeting is schedule on July 6, 2021 at 5:30p at the Media Center of the Old Middle/High School.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Porter