



**SPECIAL
EDC MEETING**
THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2017 AT 5:15 PM
TOWN OFFICES AT HOLLY GREEN PLAZA

APPROVED MINUTES

B. Mastroianni called the Special Meeting of the EDC to order at 5:29pm. Being a Special Meeting, no additions to Agenda were permitted.

Members in Attendance were: *B. Mastroianni, D. Isom, D. Tillman-Brown, B. Bartick, and G. Tattersall*

Members absent: *B. Campagna and A. Sadowski,*

Staff present: *J. Hodge, PDZO*

Public in attendance: *Shawn Murphy, First Selectman and Claire Silva*

Public Comments:

Mrs. Silva introduced herself to the Commission and brought some website issues to their attention. She will provide J. Hodge with a list of the issues found and offered to help correct them.

Minutes: Commission reviewed and accepted the minutes of the June 26, 2017 Meeting.

Motion made and seconded (D. Isom /D. Tillman-Brown) to Approve Minutes as written. Motion carried 5:0

Treasurers Report: D. Tillman-Brown presented a copy of the year end and most recent Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual through 8/30/17 for the Commission members to review.

Discussion followed with respect to the Verizon charge on the account. This phone is not being used and was returned to the Town. This charge should not appear. B. Mastroianni questioned the process for approving expenditures and requested that staff let the Commission vote on at least the larger expenditures. Staff following existing procedure for Land Use Department whereby staff can approve expenditures on items identified in the budget such as membership dues, travel, office expenses, etc.

Motion made and seconded (G. Tattersall /D. Tillman-Brown) to Approve Treasurer's Report. Motion carried 5:0

New Business

PDZO Report

Staff discussed the recent inquiries for various parcels in town and recent real estate transactions. Of note was the sale of Cedar Park Hotel at the rotary and new ownership of the commercial/mixed-use property next to the Post Office.

Discussed the recent court cases re: allowing Casinos on non-tribal land and the possible impact of this on North Stonington.

Members mentioned concerns about joining a health District as it will increase costs for residents and developers and slow down the permitting process. The Department of Health noted several areas where the Town is not in compliance with the Health Code and permit requirements and procedures. The Town has had no interest in the currently vacant Well & Septic Sanitarian position. The decision to join LedgeLight or Uncas will occur at the next Town Meeting on Sept. 18th.

J. Hodge gave an overview of the proposed Zone change along the Western end of Rte. 2.

Discussed the possibility of using interns from the High School as they are required to do a senior project. Staff and

Commission members will agree on a few possible projects and discuss at the next meeting. Interns could be recruited at a career day event at the school.

Old Business

Discussed the website situation briefly. The Old EDC Website is still live despite the recent update of the Town Site. Brett has not paid to retrieve the website designed by the Commission, but we do have access to it to determine what changes need to be made.

Discussed the idea of a joint EDC meeting with the Town of Stonington and generally getting involved in some joint projects as a way to improve relations and move the sewer tie-in issue forward. J. Hodge to meet with Stonington's Director of Planning and the EDC Chair on 9/5/17. Also discussed Stonington's recent approval of the Heritage Farm/Agriculture Floating Zone and the possible negative impact it could have on local farmers – especially those who lease farmland.

EDC Member Appointments

Discussed the prospective EDC Members Paul Simonds and Sam Cherenzia. Alternate Member, George Tattersall will be made a Regular Member. Paul Simonds will be appointed to fill the remaining term of the vacant position and will then run on the ballot with Sam Cherenzia. Commission agreed to forward a letter to the Board of Selectmen to appoint Paul Simonds before the election.

J. Hodge to draft a letter of support for the Rte. 2 Zone change.

Commission members and Staff discussed a future possible EDC hosted seminar with speakers from CERC and seCTer. Local businesses would be invited and recognized as well.

Motion made and seconded (D. Tillman-Brown/B. Bartick) to adjourn the meeting at 6:35pm. Motion carried 6:0

Next Meeting is the Regular meeting on September 21, 2017 at 5:15pm Town Offices Holly Green Plaza.

Respectfully Submitted,

Juliet Hodge

Juliet Hodge, PDZO