

**Essex Economic Development Commission  
Special Meeting Minutes  
January 20, 2015 - 4:00pm**

The Essex Economic Development Commission met on Wednesday, January 20,, 2014 at 4:00pm. In attendance were Betsy D'Amico, Lon Seidman, David Sousa, and Ed Cook.

**Guests Present:**

Peter Decker of Witch Hazel Works  
Joseph Budrow, Zoning Enforcement Officer  
First Selectman Norm Needleman  
Judy Heiser, Essex Board of Trade

**Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Seidman at 4:00 p.m.

**Discussion Items**

Peter Decker presented the commission with plans the Witch Hazel Works complex has to reconfigure the entrance to the complex. When completed the Essex Steam Train and Witch Hazel works will each have their own entrances. Mr. Seidman asked Mr. Decker to return to the commission should he need assistance as the project moves forward.

Joseph Budrow updated the commission on the ongoing signage update to the zoning regulations. Members reiterated their concerns related to the focus of the current draft on lighting technology versus color temperature and other measurements that work across all forms of lighting. Mr. Budrow also reassured members that business owners who park their work vehicles in their residential driveways will not be penalized for illegal signage.

Mr. Needleman updated the members on various town projects, including progress on the Ivoryton project that might begin by springtime.

**New Business**

Members discussed the budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Mr. Seidman suggested keeping the budget at the current level of \$14,100 with no increase. The commission expressed its support of the work that Susan Malan, the Economic Developer Consultant, is doing on behalf of the commission and the town. On a motion by Betsy D'Amico and seconded by Ed Cook, the EDC unanimously **VOTED** to submit the budget request of \$14,100 to the Board of Selectmen.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Essex Economic Development Commission unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lon Seidman, Chairman