

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT
ESSEX ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
ESSEX TOWN HALL
JANUARY 9, 2013 - 4:00pm**

The Essex Economic Development Commission was held on Wednesday, January 9, 2013 at 4:00pm. In attendance were Lon Seidman, Robert Laundry, Ed Cook and John Beveridge. Also in attendance was Norman Needleman, First Selectman(Arrival 4:28pm) and Kelley Frazier, Secretary to the Board. Absent: David Winstead and Mark Uihlein

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman Mr. Seidman at 4:00pm. Mr. Seidman began the meeting with a moment of silence in honor of Mr. Thompson's service to the Town of Essex.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion made by John Beveridge and seconded by Robert Laundry in the Commission unanimously **VOTED** to approve the minutes from the December 2012 Essex Economic Development Commission meeting.

OFFICER ELECTIONS

Upon a motion made by Robert Laundry and seconded by Ed Cook the Essex Economic Development Commission unanimously **VOTED** to nominate as Lon Seidman as Interim Chairman, Ed Cook as Vice Chairman and John Beveridge as Secretary. The motion passed.

INTRODUCTION

Visitors

Audience member Susan Malan from Water Pollution Control Authority and the Sanitary Waste Commission was present. (Departure 4:26pm)

A member from the Essex Board of Trade.

Ms. Malan introduced Kimberley Parsons-Whitaker from Connecticut MainStreet Center. She described her program which Essex is now a member. The Commission discussed goals and noted that the methodology will be very unique for each town. Sewer and parking are the biggest challenge of our town has to deal with. Mr. Seidman discussed having this group facilitate a meeting where representatives from all three villages could develop a work plan and goals.

Commissioners:

None Present

REPORT FROM TOWN HALL

Mr. Needleman had no additional updates.

COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comments made.

OLD BUSINESS

STEAP Grant Award

The RFP has been prepared for the design study. The RFP will be reviewed by the State. The work will begin in the spring.

Town Website Update

This will launch an initial phase very soon. The Economic Development Commission should post minutes and agendas initially and then have more information added to enhance the business side of our town.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Beveridge and seconded by Mr. Cook, the Economic Development Commission unanimously **VOTED** to accept retroactively the payment of dues for Connecticut MainStreet Center. The motion passed.

Zoning Restaurant Changes

Mr. Seidman discussed the draft letter he wrote to the Zoning Commission regarding the concerns the EDC has for possible zoning changes for restaurants. Additional discussion on these regulations ensued. There is a hearing on January 28, 2013.

After discussion, the Commission members decided to amend the letter to add a special exception consideration with some design criteria.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made and seconded, the Essex Economic Development Commission unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 5:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Kelley S. Frazier
Essex Economic Development Commission Clerk