

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT
ESSEX ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
ESSEX TOWN HALL
March 11, 2015 - 4:00PM**

The Essex Economic Development Commission was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 4:00pm. In attendance were Chairman Lon Seidman, Robert Laundry, David Winstead, David Sousa, Betsy D'Amico and Ed Cook. Also in attendance Kelley Frazier, Secretary to the Commission and Norm Needleman, First Selectman. Absent: Robert Laundry and David Winstead

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Seidman at 4:00pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion made by David Sousa and seconded by Betsy D'Amico the Commission unanimously **VOTED** to approve the minutes from January 2015 Essex Economic Development Commission meeting.

INTRODUCTION

Visitors:

Judie Heiser, Essex Board of Trade voiced her concerns regarding the poor condition of the roads.

Commissioners:

No Comment

REPORT FROM TOWN HALL/CONSULTANT

Ms. Malan was not present but had previously distributed her report to the Commission. Mr. Needleman was present and gave an update. Oliver's and Benny's Farm Market has closed. There are reports of prospective buyers for both businesses. The Board of Selectmen has completed their budget process. Bids are being obtained for the work to be done in Ivoryton with a May start date. Mr. Needleman was awaiting word on the STEAP grant for Essex and expect to hear something in April or May. He noted that roads in town are in poor condition and will require much work to repair them.

COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Plan of Conservation and Development Working Draft

No Update.

Zoning Signage Regulations

There will be a public meeting for additional input of the regulations.

Route 9 Overpass/Gateway Improvement Discussion

No Update.

Centerbrook Grant

An application has been submitted. Mr. Seidman sent a letter on behalf of the EDC stating the EDC's support of enhancements to Centerbrook.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Sousa has a suggestion to fill the vacancy on the EDC. He noted that he has not heard anything regarding the Farmer's Market Grant. The State has decreased many items in their budget and towns are unsure as to the support they will receive.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made and seconded the Commission unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 4:23pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Commission Clerk