

**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, April 8, 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 was Susan Malan, Economic Developer, Judy Heiser from the Essex Board of Trade, and two members of the Essex Boy Scouts observing the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Laundry asked that the minutes of the prior meeting be amended to indicate that he and Dr. Winstead were not present.

Upon a motion made by David Sousa and seconded by Lon Seidman the Commission **VOTED** to approve the minutes from March 2015 Essex Economic Development Commission meeting as amended. Mr. Laundry abstained.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS' REPORT

Susan Malan discussed a property at 14 Plains Road and perhaps some missed opportunities to fill the space due to Zoning issues. She will keep the EDC informed about any recommendations that should be made regarding the property.

She also discussed another potential opportunity for a new business that expressed interest in the town.

Members also discussed the status of the new Zoning signage regulations which are still in development.

ROUTE 9 EXIT 3 OVERPASS

Members discussed at length DOT's clear cutting around the exit ramp to Route 9 exit 3. Town officials were told the work came as a result of the EDC's letter to State Rep. Phil Miler and State Sen. Art Linares. All agreed that the letter clearly asked for the DOT to focus on invasive plants around the area and not the nearly complete clear cutting that took place.

Concern also centered around what plans if any the state had for new plantings in the impacted area. Ms. Malan and Mr. Seidman will coordinate on drafting a new letter in regards to the area.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Mr. Sousa reported that the Ivoryton Farmer's market is set for a June 27 opening. He expressed concern that planned roadwork around the Ivoryton center area might impact the opening. Mr. Seidman said he will discuss the issue with the First Selectman and report back.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lon Seidman, Chairman