

# **Town of Wallingford** Economic Development Commission 45 South Main Street, Room 311 Wallingford, CT 06492

April 25, 2024

- TO: Members of the Economic Development Commission
- FROM: Stacey Hoppes, EDC Secretary
- SUBJECT: Regular Meeting Agenda Monday, April 29, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Town Hall, Room 315 45 South Main Street Wallingford, CT 06492

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance
- 2. Discussion on Regular Meeting Minutes dated March 25, 2024 (attach.)
- 3. Review of Monthly Expenditure Report March 2024 (attach.)
- 4. Welcome New Commissioners, Frank Apuzzo and Dana Quigley
- 5. Guest Presentation: REX Development Annual Update 2024, Ginny Kozlowski, Barbara Malmberg & Dale Kroop
- 6. Old Business:
  - Update: Historic Railroad Station RFP
- 7. New Business:
- 8. Committee remarks:
  - Marketing
    - >Update on committee activities
      - Update and discuss: Mayor's Company Visits
      - Discussion and possible action: funding request for WCI Annual Restaurant Hop – 5/15/24
    - >Next meeting: May 16, 2024 @ 12:00pm (noon)
  - P&Z Liaison
    - >Update on committee activities
      - Yalesville Limited Business District (YLB)
        - tentative workshop date 5/09/24 @ 6pm, location TBD
      - T-30 Zone (Tracy)

## >Next meeting:

- 9. Staff report/regional matters
- 10. Chair's remarks
- 11. Other community business *(vote)*



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Dates to Remember:

04/29 – TC Meeting-Public Hearing ~ Budget FY 2024-25 05/09 – YLB Workshop (tentative) 05/13 – PZC Meeting

ec: EDC Members Town Council (via T. Clerk) Kevin Pagini, P&Z Mayor's Office

Maribel Carrion, QCC N Ray Andrewsen, QCC V GovMedia J Town Clerk's Office (for posting)

NH Reg., Htfd. Courant, R-J Website, Rosemarie Preneta Jessica Wysocki, Bill Comerford ) Liz Verna

Individuals in need of auxiliary aids for effective communication in programs and services of the Town of Wallingford are invited to make their needs and preferences known to the ADA Compliance Coordinator at 203-294-2070 five days prior to meeting date.

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**Town of Wallingford** Economic Development Commission 45 South Main Street, Room 311

Wallingford, CT 06492

Economic Development Commission Regular Meeting Minutes March 25, 2024

Present:

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- Joe Mirra, Chair Hank Baum, Commissioner Anthony Bracale, Commissioner Tim Ryan, Commissioner Jim Wolfe, Commissioner Gary Fappiano, Alternate Patty Powers, Alternate
- Absent: Rob Fritz, Commissioner Patricia Cymbala, Alternate
- Others Present:
  - Chair Joe Mirra called the regular meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 6:30 p.m.

Stacey Hoppes, EDC Secretary

**Don Crouch, Economic Development Specialist** 

- 1. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> Chair Mirra took a moment of silence in memory of Vice Chair, Mark Gingras. Mirra then led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Chair Mirra stated that he will go directly to item #4 Tribute Mark Gingras, and then return to item #2.

Patty Powers arrived 6:35pm

- <u>Discussion on Regular Meeting Minutes dated February 26, 2024</u> Jim Wolfe made a motion to approve the minutes as drafted; Gary Fappiano seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- Review of Monthly Expenditure Reports/February 2024 Jim Wolfe noted that the Promotional
   Account has a large balance. Chair Mirra and staff are working on a marketing plan for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.
   Marketing Committee will be meeting for discussions.
- 4. <u>Tribute to Mark Gingras</u> Chair Mirra, Commissioner Wolfe, and Commissioner Powers all spoke in honor of Commissioner Gingras. Mark was humble, kind, selfless; a perfect example of an advocate for the Wallingford community. Commissioners discussed the language to be engraved on the bench plaques in front of Town Hall in honor of Mark's dedication to Wallingford. Secretary Hoppes will send out an email with a final draft of the engraving to the commission. Plaques should be completed/installed in April. The Commission also suggested doing something more in his honor, possibly naming a building or gymnasium after him…discussions will continue.
- 47 possibly naming a building of gym 48

# 49 5. <u>Nomination & Election of Vice-Chair</u> – Jim Wolfe made a motion to nominate Hank Baum as 50 Vice-Chair. Gary Fappiano seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved. 51

#### 52 6. Old Business:

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- <u>Update: Historic Railroad Station Re-Use Project</u> Staff Crouch updated that the draft RFP is in progress, he is currently awaiting input from a few more town departments. Mirra asked staff to forward the draft to the EDC and to schedule a meeting with the town departments that are sending their input. Ryan and Bracale commented that the RFP should be viewed as a marketing piece with a vision for the Historic Train Station.
- <u>Update: Yalesville Limited Business District (YLB)</u> Staff noted that the proposed map is complete and Town Planner is working on the language changes to the zone regulations. Staff will meet with Town Planner to review drafts and forward to the EDC. Tim Ryan made a motion to propose a redesign of the Yalesville Limited Business District (YLB) to the Planning & Zoning Commission (PZC). Anthony Bracale seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously, with the abstention of Commissioner Wolfe.
  - <u>Update: T-30 Zone (Tracy)</u> Planning Department is currently working on updates to the enforcement regulations. It has been suggested to add fencing to some parcels in the zone. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

#### 68 7. New Business:

- Discuss: Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) Staff Crouch gave an intro to the TIF program, referencing the packet distributed to the Commission. It is more of a financing method than a tax incentive. The goal is to use TIF funds for reinvesting in the specific zone. After brief discussions the Commission agreed to move the agenda item to Old Business and put on the agenda for discussion at the next Marketing Committee meeting.
- Discussion and possible action: HUBCAP Community Strategic Planning Meeting Mirra stated that these requests usually go before the Marketing Committee to approve prior to adding to the EDC agenda, but we were unable to have a meeting so it went onto this agenda. Powers is requesting funds for the two (2) Community Strategic Planning Meetings in the amount of \$200 per meeting, totaling \$400. Gary Fappiano made a motion to allocate \$400 from the Promotional budget for the HUBCAP Community Strategic Planning Meetings. Jim Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, with the abstention of Commissioner Powers.
  - Powers is also requesting \$100 to assist in promoting the Medical Career Night Event at HUBCAP. Gary Fappiano made a motion to allocate \$100 from the Promotional budget for the HUBCAP Medical Career Night Event. Jim Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, with the abstention of Commissioner Powers.

## 8. <u>Committee Remarks:</u>

- Marketing, Retention & Incentive Committee Update:
  - The EDC is no longer using Promotional funds for the P/T Communication Specialist position.
    - Mayor Company Visit schedule was emailed to all Commissioners. Please respond to staff if you are able to attend any of the visits.
  - The town videos from CGI are complete. Sponsor videos are added. Secretary Hoppes is working with Exposure to have the video tour to the town website. Tentative completion date is April 5<sup>th</sup>. The videos will be on the homepage of the website. Videos will also be promoted through our digital channels. Secretary Hoppes will forward the video link to the Commissioners for viewing.
- Powers updated that the Broker Breakfast went very well, and was well received from all attendees. She and staff have gotten a lot of positive feedback. The monkey survey is going to be sent out to all attendees for feedback next week.

102	• Mirra stated that the Retention and Incentives portion of this committee are being removed.							
103	Mirra will reestablish the Retention and Incentives Committee at a later date.							
104	<ul> <li>Anthony Bracale is the new Chair for the Marketing Committee.</li> </ul>							
105	<ul> <li>Next meeting – none scheduled</li> </ul>							
106	- Next meeting - none scheduled							
107	Dianning 8 Zaning Lisican Committee Undate: Pour noted that all DZC agonda items were							
	• <b>Planning &amp; Zoning Liaison Committee Update:</b> Baum noted that all PZC agenda items were							
108	continued to their next meeting. The only item on the PZC agenda that we are following is the							
109	10 Mansion Road application. It will have a Public Hearing at their next meeting.							
110	<ul> <li>Wolfe reviewed what was discussed at the Plan of Conservation and Development</li> <li>(DOOD) logical production of the DOOD logical production of the product of the pro</li></ul>							
111	(POCD) Implementation meeting. The POCD Implementation Committee is going to							
112	have a booth at Celebrate Wallingford 2024 and have a Public Q&A at the Wallingford							
113	Senior Center. The Committee is looking for as much public input as possible. The new							
114	POCD Plan is due in 2026. Secretary Hoppes will work on adding the POCD information							
115	to the EDC page of the website and will send a memo to the Town Planner to request a							
116	list of what has been completed so far from the 2016 POCD.							
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118	9. <u>Staff Report/regional matters</u> – Crouch noted some of the updates on his staff report:							
119	<ul> <li>Community Engagement – Town Center landlord meeting</li> </ul>							
120	• FY 2024-25 Budget meeting with the Mayor went well. No changes to the EDC budget. Awaiting							
121	Budget Hearing schedule from the Mayor's Office.							
122	<ul> <li>Dan O'Keefe is the new Chief Innovation Officer for the State of CT, DECD</li> </ul>							
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124	10. <u>Chair's remarks</u> – Mirra met with Bob Motley to discuss office vacancies. Mirra would like to revisit the							
125	Incentive Program for Office Space. Ryan stated that he supports being aggressive with this incentive.							
126	<ul> <li>WCI would like to invite a few of the EDC members to meet with a few members of the WCI</li> </ul>							
127	board to discuss projects in the Town Center.							
128	• Mirra is going to attend a Non-profit Housing Committee meeting. He will give an update at the							
129	next meeting.							
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131	There being no further business, Patty Powers made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.;							
132	Hank Baum seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.							
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