

# KILLINGLY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, November 7, 2023  
Killingly Town Hall  
Meeting Room 102  
172 Main Street  
Killingly, CT



## Minutes

Bill Cheng -Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:08 PM. Chairman appointed Jay Lirette as a voting member.

1. Roll Call:

Members Present: Jay Lirette, Bill Cheng, Todd Cooke, Dale Desmarais, Mark Tillinghast (arrived at 5:10)  
Absent: Kevin Cole (with notice), Eva-Marie Roberts (with notice).

Others Present: Jill St. Clair, Economic Development Director, Anne-Marie Aubrey, Director of Planning and Development, Tammy Wakefield, town council liaison, Bucky Lohbusch, Director of Parks & Recreation

2. Approval of Minutes:

Jay Lirette made a **MOTION** to accept the September 5, 2023, minutes as presented. Motion was **SECONDED** by Dale Desmarais. The voice vote was **ALL IN FAVOR**.

3. Correspondence –

4. Citizen's Participation –

5. Unfinished Business:

- a) Economic Development Trust Fund: \$302,821.60
- b) Update of Projects:
  - Brickyard Plaza is in "design to construction phase" which includes surveys, drainage, MSR-4 improvements and CAD files. Anticipation for contractor bids to go out early spring 2024.
  - 125 Alexander Parkway- tire and metal debris has been removed from the site and test pits have been installed. Street sweeping piles have been assessed and environmental tests have been conducted.
  - National Endowment of the Arts "Kick Off" Event is Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 6pm -8pm at the library. The muralist and videographer will be in attendance.
  - SeCTer Rise program is offering 20K grants on a monthly rolling review basis.
  - EPA Brownfield Grant- the town will be going out for RFP for a QEP in mid-November.
  - Circuit Riders from the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation will be touring Killingly Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>
  - UConn TAB program continues to collaborate with the Town of Killingly regarding brownfield education initiatives.
  - The Economic Development office is applying for the CIF for a market and feasibility planning grant for the Ballouville Mill site.

6. New Business:

- a) Parks and Recreation Director and EDC discussion-
  - Bucky Lohbusch gave the EDC commission an update on current programming, the community center, and the success of the Spooktacular event
  - Senior Programming continues to be well attended and numbers are growing.
  - Shift in focus for events of quality versus quantity
- b) Ribbon Cuttings- Glorias's Kitchen and Higher Collective, several new businesses will be opening early winter.

b) Tourism Updates- New micro-influencer video in the region is performing very well and has gained traction in the Boston market as an alternative to weekend getaways, over 107K views in 3 weeks.

7. Liaison Reports:

Anne-Marie Aubrey reported the continuation of a public hearing on the Hartford Pike Plaza limited to one item pending legal counsel opinion. Public Hearings set for Business Park Regulations, Zone Map Change for the former Benny's on Wauregan Road from Light Industrial back to General Commercial and an application on a three-lot subdivision on Snake Meadow Road and 2 Weeks Lane. Application for a Redemption Center on Commerce Avenue will be discussed.

Tammy Wakefield reported the town council meeting was cancelled due to the elections.

8. Commission Member Reports – Bill Cheng Open Space Commission- no meeting. Jay Lirette reported on the NECID Realtors meeting with continued activity in the region and an increase for housing units needed.

9. Adjournment:

Todd Cooke made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 6:25 PM. Dale Desmarais **SECOND** the motion. The voice vote, **ALL IN FAVOR.**

Respectfully submitted,



Jill St. Clair, Recording Secretary