KILLINGLY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 3, 2020
Killingly Town Hall
Conference Room 102
172 Main Street
Killingly, CT

Bill Cheng, Vice-Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

1. Roll Call:
   Members Present: Bill Cheng, Todd Cooke, Dale Desmarais and Joyce Ricci. Mark Tillinghast and Kevin Cole were absent with notification.

Others Present: Rand Joly, former Commission Secretary; Town Councilors, Ernest Lee and Patti George; Planning & Development Director, Ann-Marie Aubrey; Elsie Bisset, Economic Development Director and Judy LaRoche, Recording Secretary.

Bill Cheng appointed Joyce Ricci as a voting member.

Bill then presented Rand Joly with a plaque honoring his time, from 2008-2019, as a member of the Economic Development Commission.

2. Approval of Minutes:
   A MOTION to accept the minutes of November 5, 2019 was made by Todd Cooke. It was SECONDED by Joyce Ricci and the voice vote was ALL IN FAVOR.

3. Correspondence – The TEEG (formerly Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group) Annual Report, Northeastern CT Chamber Annual Report and Information packet from Board of Education were all passed around.

4. Citizen’s Participation – None

5. Unfinished Business:

   a) Economic Development Trust Fund – The beginning balance of the Trust Fund as of January 1, 2020 was $159,382.85. The interest in January was $60.75. The balance as of January 31, 2020 is $159,442.60.

   b) Update of Projects – Elsie reported the following:
      - KBA has a new president, Shane Young of Access Electric. Jason Verraneault is Vice-President and Kim Sweet is Treasurer.
      - There was a ribbon cutting for Threadz Consignment, a new business on North Main Street.
      - The Downtown Façade project has been completed. All the owners will now sign a final agreement. The loan amounts are forgiven at 20% a year for 5 years. If they sell before the five years, they pay the Town back accordingly.
      - 140 Main Street RFQs have been received and the Town Manager will go over them first. Now, the building is for sale and there will be confidential interviews with Jen and Mary and then after brought to Council.
      - Elsie’s job has been advertised and resumes are being accepted until Thursday, March 12th. She may stay on as a consultant for the month of April.
      - Benny’s on North Main Street was sold on February 26th and recorded on March 3rd. It was purchased for $400,000 by JSB Properties, who owns Bousquet’s Appliances.
6. New Business - None

7. Liaison Reports – Town Council Liaison, Ernie Lee reported the following:
   - The Top 5 goals mentioned at the Council goal setting session: supporting Economic Development, working more closely with the Board of Education, supporting and growing the Constabulary, evaluating the NECCOG services and expanding community awareness and how people get their information from meetings and re-evaluating Channel 22.
   - The KBA was going to be requesting a line item in the Town budget this year.
   - Council authorized funding for the new surfacing at Owen Bell Park.
   - WISH wants to give the dams/ponds in East Killingly to the Town. They're looking into it, but, there are many issues connected to it.
   - After information sessions concerning the Westfield Avenue project and KMS modifications, there is a town-wide vote scheduled for March 17th.
   - They endorsed a grant submission for NECCOG for animal care.
   - Ernie also gave an update on the Solid Waste sub-committee concerning the transfer station issues. Discussion followed on the pros and cons of the mandatory pick up program that failed.

8. Commission Member Reports – Bill Cheng reported that there was an Open Space meeting scheduled for February 27th, but, no quorum. It was rescheduled to Thursday, March 5th. Bill also went to the FOI meeting as well as the commercial realtor meeting in Griswold.

   Joyce Ricci asked Elsie about the NTE project and Elsie passed around the NTE presentation report. They’re working things out with Eversource and the water company. Eversource will be replacing poles in their rights of way in the area. PoCD did not get passed in February and March 16th is the next meeting.

9. Adjournment

   A MOTION was made by Joyce Ricci to adjourn at 5:42 PM. It was SECONDED by Dale Desmarais. The voice vote was ALL IN FAVOR.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Judy LaRoche
Recording Secretary