



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

**Town Hall
2nd floor Conference Room
61 Echo Lake Road, Watertown, CT 06795
Thursday, May 16, 2024
7:30 PM**

1. Convene Regular Meeting
Chairman Joseph McGrail called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Joe McGrail, Chairman
Jack Traver, Vice Chairman
Theodore Migliarese, Secretary
Zaiga Antonetti
Charles Beliveau
Stephen Miske

Members Absent: Robert Piazzaroli

Alternates Present:

Alternates Absent: Catarina DiVito
Peter Linn

Others Present: Jeremi Johnson, Economic Development Coordinator
Joseph Seacrist
Frankie Popilowski

3. Public Comment - none

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Jack Traver seconded by Theodore Migliarese to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for April 18, 2024 as presented.

Discussion: none.

Motion passes unanimously

5. Correspondence - none

6. Economic Development Coordinator's Report
Distributed at meeting and posted on web.

7. Old and Unfinished Business

- a. Interviews complete for Joe's replacement – Joe Seacrist introduced Jeremi Johnson. Jeremi Johnson talked about his background and is looking forward working with Watertown. Joseph McGrail stated he was on panel and was picked as the top candidate.
- b. Meeting with Town Manager regarding tax incentives

Motion: Jack Traver seconded by Stephen Miske: to send a letter to Mark Raimo endorsing the letter from Joseph Seacrist to Moosa Rafey which endorsed Seacrist's approval of the Forum Plastics application to Inland/Wetlands.

Motion passed unanimously

- c. New restaurant approved – Chipotle approved at Ion Bank site.
- d. Follow up with Town Manager regarding streetscape project – talk to Mark Raimo, Town Manager streetscape is in intact and ARPA funds are still there to be used.
- e. Potential public/private projects – checking for grants for movie theater.

8. New Business

- a. Report on pre application meeting for P & Z – engineer said they are preferring Watertown.
- b. New business interested in façade improvement – Itty Bitty Cookie Company inquired.
- c. State statute on fixed tax incentives – passed out new statute on tax incentives.
- d. Halloween facility on Middlebury Road – preliminary discussion.

9. Second Public comments (limited to items on the agenda)

Frankie Popilowski asked questions about item 2 on Coordinator's Report and received answers from the commission.

9. Adjournment

Motion: Ted Migliarese seconded by Stephen Miske to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph McGrail, Chairman