

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Minutes of October 3, 2012 Meeting

1. Meeting called to order at 6:37 p.m. Commissioners present Chair Kerri Ouellette, Vice Chair P. Thomas Schoenemann, Secretary John DiCarlo, Steve Criss, Franci Tartaglino and Jon Sederquist.
2. Motion to adopt the agenda made by Ms. Ouellette, seconded by Mr. Schoenemann, passed unanimously.
3. Motion to adopt Minutes of the 8/12/12 special meeting made by Mr. Criss, seconded by Mr. Sederquist, passed unanimously.
4. The Commission discussed follow up to the 8/12/12 meeting with the Planning Commission regarding a possible Town Center business zone. On a motion made by Ms. Ouellette, seconded by Mr. DiCarlo, the commission unanimously voted to table recommending inclusion of certain areas in the zone until after the Zoning Commission's October 22, 2012 meeting.
5. Commissioners again reviewed of status of business data received via surveys sent with recent tax bills to all Harwinton taxpayers. Commissioners discussed the creation of town wide business directory with the data. On a motion made by Mr. Criss, seconded by Mr. DiCarlo, the commission unanimously voted to collate and staple hardcopies of the directory at its November 7 meeting. In addition, a listing of each business' name, address, phone number and web address will be featured on the new town website.
6. As 'Other Business,' commissioners discussed the concept of creating a business incubator space that would allow residents who operate their own business to utilize space in town hall during workdays that could allow them access to wi-fi service and perhaps a photo copier. Mr. Criss offered to create a one-sheet proposal for the Board of Selectmen's review.

Commissioners also discussed how the EDC could serve as an advocate/concierge to assist local businesses in relocation should an existing business suddenly experience building or property issues that could force them to close.

7. Under public participation, First Selectman Michael Criss asked the EDC to complete an application for Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) funding for local economic development efforts. The commission agreed to seek funding for: business incubator space, a town business expo, the town wide business directory and a showcase for businesses new to town. Mr. Schoenemann offered to complete the application for the commission.

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First Selectman Criss also requested that commissioners strongly consider attending a meeting or meetings of the Burlington Economic Development Commission to learn about its economic development initiatives.

8. At 8:27 p.m. on a motion made by Ms. Ouellette, seconded by Ms. Tartaglino, the commission unanimously voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by John DiCarlo, Secretary.

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