

Harwinton Economic Development Commission December 4, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order at 6:37 p.m. Commissioners present: Chair Kerrie Ouellette, Vice-Chair Thomas Schoenemann, Secretary John DiCarlo, Jon Sederquist and Donna Groccia-Lubik .

1. On a motion made by Ms. Ouelette and seconded by Mr. DiCarlo, the commission unanimously voted to add 2014 meeting dates to the agenda and adopt it.
2. On a motion made by Ms Ouelette and seconded by Mr. Sederquist, the commission unanimously voted to approve Minutes of the commission's 10/16/13 Special Meeting.
3. Commissioners noted that the town's business directory is now up to date. Mr. Schoenemann said that he has changed a couple of business listings previously in the directory to Harwinton addresses, in response to issues that arose regarding other listings where the proprietor may primarily operate from an out of town address.

Commissioners discussed whether to include forms to be listed in the business directory in tax bills the town will be mailing in January 2014 and agreed to wait to request the inclusion of directory listing applications with July 2014 bills. Commissioners then discussed whether the business directory would readily come up in a search engine keyword search. Mr. DiCarlo noted that in searching Google's mobile website, the town's business directory came up as the fourth listing.

4. Commissioners discussed individual research assignments. Mr. DiCarlo provided a list from the First Selectman's office regarding commercial and industrial properties in town. Ms. Ouellette volunteered to split the list of companies for commissioners to contact to see if the EDC could help them in marketing their properties and buildings that may be currently vacant. Mr. DiCarlo reported he has not been in contact with Commissioner Steve Criss regarding the criteria for a business award(s) that is utilized in other towns. At their October 2013 meeting, commissioners discussed creating annual awards for Harwinton businesses, including categories that recognize contributions to the community, beautification and unsung hero.

5. Commissioners discussed the following dates for 2014 meetings: January 8, February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July 2, August 6, September 3, October 3, November 5 and December 3. On a motion made by Mr. Schoenemann and seconded by Ms. Ouellette, commissioners unanimously voted to approve that schedule, with meetings beginning at 6:30 p.m.

6. Commissioners received a presentation from Harwinton resident Theresa M. Erikson and Doug Morrow regarding a new, monthly publication that would be mailed to all Harwinton and Burlington residents

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The scope of the publication, advertising rates and its potential appeal to Harwinton businesses were discussed. The first edition is expected to be printed in early 2014.

Ms. Ouellette suggested Ms. Erikson and Mr. Morrow come before the committee in several months for feedback on the first issues.

7. Public Participation. There were no members of the public present.

8. On a motion made by Mr. DiCarlo and seconded by Ms. Ouellette, the commission unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. *Respectfully submitted by John DiCarlo, secretary.*

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT
ON 9/10/2013 AT 9:26AM
ATTEST NANCY E. ELDRIDGE TOWN CLERK