ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
East Granby, Connecticut

Monday, February 24, 2025
5:30 pm Town Hall Meeting Room & Via ZOOM
Hybrid Meeting

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** 5:32 pm- Members present when Chairman David Iannucci called the meeting to order were: Peter Ritter, Dan Barrett, Glenn Zaugg, & Via ZOOM: Town Planner Robin Newton. Kerry Flaherty arrived at 5:35pm. Members absent: Tom Lally & Todd Zessin

2. **Minutes:** Peter Ritter made a motion to approve the minutes from January 2025, Glenn Zaugg seconded the motion, votes in favor were unanimous, motion passed.

3. **New Business:** Chairman Iannucci recognized that Glenn Zaugg was officially appointed by BOS and sworn in as a full member. The commission is now down 2 alternates, he encouraged members to reach out to anyone who may be interested in joining as an alternate.

4. **Discussion with public &/or applicants:** None

5. **Communications:**

   EDC Report: Robin Newton, Town Planner, provided a verbal report via ZOOM:

   - The zone change for Seymour Road was denied at the last PZC meeting with a 3-3 vote. This property has been denied or withdrawn 4x now for zone changes to facilitate some type of development on this property.
   - Pending application for a text amendment for allowing food trucks at existing food establishments will be heard at the next PZC meeting on March 11th.
   - Educational outreach. It has been brought to Robin's attention that residents and members of other Boards and Commissions feel that EG is only looking to bring in warehouses and not highlight other economic development. It would be a good idea to share the things we have done to promote development and small businesses, i.e., Small Business Passport program, Shop Local, Sponsorship of the Farmers Marlet which supports local farmers, website pages for Development Resources and Shop Local, and promotion of the EDC Facebook page.
   - Request have been made in this year's budget for $1500 for both the EDC & PZC for conceptual plans to apply for grants. While this is not enough it would be a start to help facilitate some sort of plans for grants. A $1500 investment for the School Street project did produce a $3.25 mil grant to complete that project.
   - Important to consider fully developing the boulevard on Gateway/Rte 20. It was never completed and there are 3 key properties owned by the same owner who can't promote development there until that road is addressed due to traffic level turning onto Route 20. It is important to align for safety reasons, making that left out onto Rte 20 is dangerous. If we can work on that road, he has interested developers. Commission members discussed the benefits of trying to push this road alignment through.

- EDC members will receive an invitation to attend the Bradley Regional Spring Gathering on March 27th, 5-7 pm at the Dudley Town Brewing Co. It is a great opportunity for networking and connecting with manufacturing and larger businesses in the area as well as other regional Economic Development commissions.

6. **Other Business:**
   - **A. Other:** Glenn Zaugg questioned signage updates for Rte. 20. Robin stated the "Welcome to East Granby" signs are ready to put up and have a ribbon cutting ceremony once the ground thaws enough to complete it, maybe sometime in April. Wayfinding signs are different, and we would have to research if there is a grant available to assist with placing these along the state roads. Chairman Iannucci stated we should focus on other avenues to get the word out for shopping at local businesses. Getting articles in Let's Talk Turkey, using the website and Facebook to get the word out.

   - **B. Tax Incentive Policy:** Chairman Iannucci will be meeting with Robin tomorrow and bring back a fine-tuned policy for next month's meeting.

   - **C. Business Retention & Visitation:** no updates

   - **D. Marketing - Articles (Business Spotlight, Etc.) LTT – Tom Lally & Peter Ritter:** no updates

7. **Adjournment**: Peter Ritter made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Kerry Flaherty seconded the motion. Votes in favor were unanimous, meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted this 25th day of February, 2025,

Michele Leadbeater
East Granby Building & Land Use Administrative Assistant