

Willington Economic Development Commission Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday, February 12th, 2020
Willington Town Office Building
40 Old Farms Road
Willington, CT 06279

Notes Taken: Yes

Members Present

Rich Mindek
Rich Maloney
Bill Rankin
Noah Vertefeuille
Mary Vertefeuille-Recording Secretary

Members Absent

N/A

1. Call to Order
 - a. 6:26pm
2. Reports
 - a. CHA Services
 - i. Clough Harbour & Associates (CHA) proposed a marketing and business development plan with EDC.
 - ii. During the meeting, we spoke about how to get zoning changes changed in Willington and which types of businesses can open in preexisting spaces without having to make too many changes
 - iii. S. Willington is the start of the project
 - iv. P&Z purchased the entire Phelps Plaza and has no plans to change any current businesses or tenants.
 1. May be adding Lots and More
 2. Public hearing to be held in March
 - v. Some other town examples include CHA working with Hebron and Thompson.
 1. Some examples have included brochures, powerpoints, social media, advertisements, speakers, and meetings.

- vi. Can Willington handle bigger development projects? Do we create an industrial park? How do we service current buildings and tenants? (Retention rates)
 - vii. EDC approved the proposal with CHA dated February 7th, 2020.
- b. Transportation Grant
 - i. State funded grant is available for towns to apply for that include funds for transportation among towns.
 - 1. Sidewalks, safety, handicap accessible areas, crosswalks, etc.
- c. Board of Finance Meeting
 - i. Send proposal to Board of Finance of \$25,000 to EDC for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.
 - ii. Rich Mindek to present
- d. Business Breakfast
 - i. On hold until projects begin and CHA starts with EDC
- e. ABA Cooperation and Marketing Contract
 - i. On hold for now.
- 3. Old Business
 - a. Railroad:
 - i. Engineers would come to town, identify property, and plan out project
 - ii. Needs land and interstate connections to build on
 - iii. Current land is owned by State of CT
 - iv. 100 acres total, from truckstop before exit 70 through River Rd past Hall School
- 4. New Business
 - a. N/A
- 5. Adjournment
 - a. 7:25pm

Next Meeting is on March 11th, 2020