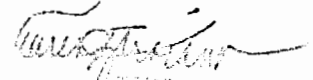


Town of Stafford  
Economic Development Commission  
Veterans Room  
Tuesday, May 16, 2023

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Teresa Cramer  
TOWN CLERK

Members Present – Teresa Cramer, Tony Armelin, Larry Vaughn, Brett Greene, John Wittenzeller

Also Present – Sal Titus

Members Absent – Chris Paradiso, Larry Mckinney, Scott Nigro, Chris Joseph

6:36 p.m. meeting called to order, pledge of allegiance.

Approve minutes of April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, Larry Vaughn motioned and Teresa seconded

### **Town Marketing and Brownfield**

-Teresa suggested a contest to generate ideas from town residents, with a judging panel comprised of members from various town commissions/groups

-Tony brought up an old town map from 2006 and the team agreed that we should look into updating this and looking into alternatives. Discuss with the Rotary Club. Look at getting sponsors to cover costs.

### **EDC Fund distributions**

-Supplies for ribbons cutting ceremony \$110 – Approved by John and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry, all in favor

-Flags for main street \$100+ – Approved by John, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Teresa, all in favor

-Lawn signs for Main Street music series \$144 – Approved by John, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brett, all in favor

### **Tax Incentive Ordinance**

-Needs to go to the Board of finance for approval

-We will wait for the upcoming budget season to see what is available

-Could be utilized by existing businesses in town and new ones

-Need to determine if this will be in a focused area or for the whole town

### **Eliminate the 60,000 foot cap on retail**

-Regional town comparison done with Ellington, Tolland and Suffield

-Needs further discussion with Planning and Zoning

-Anything over 60,000 square feet would need a special use permit, require changes to regulations

### **Downtown Stafford & Small Business Programs**

-Community investment fund has been created by the state, \$875M available

-Specific to certain towns and Stafford is included

-Could help existing businesses to upgrade, especially their facade. Also can be used to prepare new locations for new businesses.

-A grant will need to be submitted once details have been finalized for its potential use

-Teresa had some information on this program and will be sending out to the committee

-Will need a non-profit entity to help with the grant application process

**Town Sewer Plant Expansion**

- For additional town growth more businesses will need to connect to the current septic/sewer system
- Proposed Athena assisted living project near Johnson Memorial would push current system to capacity, so expansion of the current treatment plant would be necessary.

**New Business**

- Upcoming ribbon cutting ceremonies for:
  - Off the Rails Brewing Co – June 3
  - Primrose Salon & Antiques – June
  - Record Shop – June
- Potential book store is looking for a location in town, this was communicated through Teresa
- Coordinate a Select board meeting to discuss the towns bid process to ensure that local businesses have opportunities

**Old Business – None**

Motion to Adjourn – 8:00 p.m. by John, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry

Submitted by Brett Greene  
EDC Secretary

