

Town of Stafford  
Economic Development Commission  
March 19, 2024  
Veterans Meeting Room  
1 Main Street, Stafford, CT 06076

RECEIVED  
STAFFORD, CT

2024 APR 11 PM 1:33

*2 pages*

*Stafford*  
TOWN OF STAFFORD

**Members Present:**

Anthony Armelin - Chairman  
Christopher Paradiso  
Larry Vaughn  
Scott Nigro  
Theresa Cramer  
Larry A. McKinney  
Roger Wood

*Theresa Cramer*

**Others Present:**

Bill Morrison, First Selectmen  
Amber Wakley-Whaley, Director of Grants & Community Development

**Agenda:**

1. Call the meeting to order/ Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approve the minutes of the November 21, 2023 meeting
3. Discussion of potential new businesses to town/Ribbon Cuttings/Supplies
4. Stafford Brownfields Initiative Update
5. Town Infrastructure - Possible recommendations
6. Possible budget uses
7. New Business
8. Old Business
9. Adjournment

**Call the meeting to order/ Pledge of Allegiance**

Tony Armelin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Approve the minutes of the November 21, 2023 meeting**

Larry McKinney motioned to approve the minutes Larry Vaughn seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Discussion of potential new businesses to town/Ribbon Cuttings/Supplies**

Amber Wakley-Whaley listed a number of a businesses openings and re-openings that were coming up, as well as other events.

- Stafford Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram was having a grand re-opening party

- JCC Masonry planning a ribbon cutting on April 16
- The Rotary Club was having a “Manufacturing in Stafford” event at Willington Nameplate
- The latest info on Mike’s on Main was that they are planning a mid-April opening.

First Selectman Bill Morrison said he has spoken with Mat D’More of Big Y and that they are willing to rent the empty space in the plaza. He also informed the board that there would be a meeting with a representative of Aldi’s on April 2, 2024, and that he had invited Wakley-Whaley, Tony Armelin, and Theresa Cramer to join the meeting. When mentioning the need for a potential site, Scott Nigro volunteered information about the site he owns directly across from Big Y. Roger Wood also said he has five acres by West Stafford Fire Department.

Morrison also referenced a call he received from State Representative Kurt Vail that TTM Technologies was looking to remove some business from China and possibly expand here. Morrison, Vail, and other representatives signed a letter of support to encourage TTM’s expansion in Stafford.

#### **Stafford Brownfields Initiative Update**

Wakley-Whaley said she was having a feasibility study and market study done for the Witt School and had applied for revolving loan funds from CRCOG for the site. She has also found that working with a contractor to create a targeted clean-up plan will increase the budget. At that time, she was working on an RFP.

#### **Town Infrastructure/Recommendations**

The commissions discussed the idea that, because of the sewer plant’s limitations, the town should pursue businesses that will not add a lot of stress to the sewer system. Businesses like the storage facility at Country Village Shoppes are a good fit for that criteria.

#### **New Business**

Morrison suggested Chic-Fil-A could be a good business to pursue, and Chris Paradiso said he knows the owner of the Enfield location.

#### **Old Business**

None.

#### **Adjournment**

At 7:20 p.m. Vaughn motioned to adjourn, Nigro seconded, and the motion passed.

