

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2014**

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Members present: Randy Vidal, John Dobos, Fred Hyatt, Robyn Greenspan (Alt.) and Brian Oliver (new member)

Others present: Karen Kaiser and Amy Knorr (Economic Development), Mayor John A. Harkins, Councilman Peter Massey

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Chairman Dobos called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. in Room 213 of the Town Hall, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 10, 2014

- MS. GREENSPAN MOVED, SECONDED BY MR. VIDAL, TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING MINUTES. MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. UPDATE FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

- Chairman Dobos complimented the EDC on the 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Clambake held on September 6, 2014.

- Ms. Knorr reported on the following:

- Contract Plating (540 Longbrook Avenue) – The State DECD has awarded the Town of Stratford a \$2.85 million Grant to clean up the former Contract Plating property (10.5 acres) which lies within the proposed Transit-Oriented Development District.
- Mercer Towers - Stratford has received a \$200,000 Brownfields Grant for removal and clean-up at the Mercer Fuel towers site on Stratford Avenue.
- Transit-Oriented District – Stratford is looking for federal and state funding for this project.
- 576/600 E. Broadway – This property was foreclosed by the Town in July, 2014.
- Exit 33 Interchange – The Chamber of Commerce is asking businesses to send letters in support of Exit 33 to the State DOT.
- Route 110 Traffic Study – The GBRC gave Stratford a Grant for this Traffic Study, which the Town matched. The Steering Committee selected Tighe and Bond to conduct the study.
- Stratford Train Station – CT DOT expects to be finished with this project by the end of the year.
- Mayor Harkins and Ms. Kaiser spoke at both an Urban Land Institute breakfast and a Fairfield County Realtors luncheon.
- John Tarkas' artwork on the underpass was unveiled at the Clambake on September 6, 2014.
- Nova Pasta will have a soft opening in October; CDI is adding 50,000 sq. ft. on Lordship Blvd; St. Vincent's Urgent Care on Main Street is expected to open by the end of the year; Forest City is 90% leased and Avalon is 80% pre-leased.

- McCoys, Lil Mo's and Sienna in Stratford Center are all closing but three new restaurants will be opening up. Mr. Hyatt questioned whether Stratford Center could support all these restaurants. Ms. Knorr explained that the three restaurants were closing due to bad management.
- Point Stratford Renewal - Army has taken samples from the mudflats. After the samples are evaluated the Army will put together an action plan and send it to the DEEP.
- Shakespeare Theater Proposals - Group has requested an extension until October to make a recommendation to the Town Council.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- Joint Meeting with Other Commissions/Boards - Ms. Kaiser reported that the EDC will be having a joint meeting with the Planning and Zoning Commissions on December 9, 2014, at Two Roads Brewery. CERC will be presenting an economic development educational class.

- It was also reported that the State General Law Committee (which deals with current liquor laws) may be coming to Stratford to see how Two Roads and other businesses are affected by their legislation.

4. OLD BUSINESS - none

5. ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 5:33 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail J. Nobili  
Secretary