

MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
September 14, 2021

PRESENT: Chairman J. Allen, Commissioners: H. Teskey, R. Juel, R. Acampora, J. Hussaini, J. May

Guests: N. Dakis and D. Lofgren

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

Minutes of August 10, 2021:

- A motion was made by R. Juel, seconded by R. Acampora to approve the minutes of August 10, 2021 as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Clinton Manufacturing Coalition and Advanced Manufacturing:

- See R. Werner's notes attached

STEAP Façade Improvement Grant:

- Three bids are required to get the grant money
 - Contractors are not submitting their bids or availing themselves to do the work
- Some businesses have done some work on their own
- Some businesses are doing the improvements as recommended by Diane with maybe a minor adjustment
- Discussed improving the back of businesses especially those with rear main entrances
 - It was noted that the STEAP grant is only for the facades facing Route 1

Part-time Business Liaison:

- This position is a liaison to the local businesses to discuss services available to them and to help formulate outreach to other businesses
- The job has to be posted

ARPA Funds:

Discussed the specifications and requirements to obtain the ARPA funds

- Monies have to be spent on something that COVID affected with negative economic impacts
- To include but not limited to unemployment assistance, infrastructure, clean water, broadband, human service needs, and medical equipment
- The Economic Development Commission should make recommendations such as:
 1. Improve businesses' back facades
 2. Improve the railroad underpass to Post Office Square
 3. Pave the "municipal" parking lot while improving the septic system there
 4. Widen the sidewalks
 5. Build a safe park appropriate for small children
- A motion was made by H. Teskey, seconded by R. Juel to recommend the Town Council to appropriate adequate money to renovate Post Office Square and the municipal parking lot. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation – American Rescue Plan – US Economic Development Administration – Competitive Assistance Grant:

- CT needs to apply for the CA grant
- Rivercog can apply for the grant thru their regional aspect

The Commission will invite a representative from both the Conservation Commission and Rivercog will be invited to the Economic Development Commission's next meeting.

The commission still needs a second written estimate for the printing of the proposed Town Signs

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy McDermott
Clerk