

ENFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 16, 2023 – 5:30 PM

Enfield Room, Town Hall

Call to Order

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Roll Call

Chairman Turner took the roll and present were Commissioners, Mary Ann Turner, Richard Stroiney, Steven Ragnauth, Marilyn Cressotti, Kelly Davis, John Santanella via telephone, Virginia Higley, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall and Philip Kober.

Also present were Nelson Tereso, Director of Economic & Community Development and Kristine Koistinen, Community Development Specialist.

Approval of Minutes – January 12, 2023

Motion to accept the January 12, 2023 regular meeting minutes made by Commissioner Stroiney; seconded by Commissioner Cressotti and approved by 5-0-2 vote. Commissioners Higley and Santanella abstained.

Chairman Turner requested that the phrase “would be provided” be changed to “may be provided”. She also requested a new paragraph be created on page 3.

New Business

a. Review and Discussion of the ARPA Small Business Grant Program – Round 2

Chairman Turner expressed that the executive session meeting with Town Council members was well received. Mr. Tereso shared a status update regarding projects related to the ARPA grants. He shared many projects require permits at either the state or local level and are continuing to move forward. As projects are completed, Chairman Turner recommended that members visit the locations and share with community.

Commissioner Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall arrived at 5:40pm.

Commissioners and staff reviewed the second draft of the application line by line. There was a discussion as to matching grants, in-kind services and what would be considered an allowable match. Commissioners discussed post-grant follow-up. Commissioner Kober recommended that a regular report be provided by staff to keep commissioners abreast as to project development.

Chairman Turner requested that each commissioner fill out the newest version on the application and note if any problems arise. She requested that staff make the necessary revisions and that the next meeting will be focused on the evaluation matrix.

b. Review of Tax Abatement Guidelines

Mr. Tereso gave an overview of what is being requested of the commissioners. The Town Manager is requesting that the commissioners review the current guidelines and make recommendations regarding policies and procedures. Once the EDC has done their review, the comments will be forwarded to the General Government and Finance sub-committee.

Other Business

Commissioner Cressotti reminded commissioners of the NCCCC Economic Development Breakfast Meeting on February 22nd at Asnuntuck Community College.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Kober; seconded by Commissioner Higley and approved by a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Jones, Recording Secretary