

TOWN OF MONTVILLE
MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
April 20, 2009

Item 1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Item 2. Roll Call.

The following Economic Development Commissioners (EDC) were present: Leonard Bunnell, Jr., Cyril Longton, John Diamantini Ann Mattson, Robert Thorn, and Al Skulczyk. Also attending was Marcia Vlaun.

Commissioners Marjorie Gatheral and Edward Jones were absent.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes.

Motion: That the Commission approves the November 18, 2008, as written.

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| Proposed by: | Cyril Longton |
| Seconded by: | Ann Mattson |
| Vote: | Carried unanimously |

Item 4. Correspondence.

Commissioner A. Skulczyk reported that letters were sent from the Town Council to those commissioners whose term is ending. He added that the Town Council now conducts interviews for all prospective commission candidates.

Item 5. New Business.

a. Update from Town Planner.

M. Vlaun reported to Commissioners on the following:

1. An update on Town foreclosures from 2007 to present was presented and discussed. To date there have been 109 foreclosures. The trend is toward structures built prior to 1980. There has been only foreclosure for a home built from 2000 to present. She said that foreclosures have no tax consequence to the Town as the banks are responsible for paying the taxes on the properties. She also said that entry level housing has been priced out due to the recent housing market. Montville has 6,000 single family homes. The foreclosure data is given monthly to the Town Council and weekly to the Town Police.
2. Data on unemployment rates within the State as of March 2009 was also reviewed. The unemployment rate for Montville is 7.2% and represents 779 who are unemployed. The rate is below the overall rate for New London County at 7.6%. Per review of Norwich- New London statistical data, the *seasonal* and *not seasonally adjusted* rate in this labor market is at 7.5% and 7.8%, respectively.

For example, construction job losses is at -25.0%. An update was given of business growth with the Town. She said that Tri-Town will open in July with 75 available positions.

3. A *Summary of Commentary on Current Economic Conditions* as of April 2009 by the Federal Reserve District was also distributed. Discussed were town growth, number of layoffs attribute to the casino, potential threats to the Town economy.

b. Update from Mayor.

Mayor Jaskiewicz was absent from the meeting.

Item 6. Old Business.

a. Sub-committee report on candidates for Town Recognition Proposal.

R. Thorn spoke on a recommendation by M. Gatheral for Town recognition. The Commission tabled the recommendation pending review of the recognition criteria.

b. Absenteeism of members.

This item was discussed under Item 4, Correspondence.

Item 7. Other Business to come before the Commission.

A. Skulczyck reported that liaison W. Caron apologized for his absence due to a family matter. He also inquired about zoning regulations for drive-up windows.

Item 8. Remarks by the Public relating to items on the agenda (limited to three minutes.)

There were no remarks by the Public.

Item 9. Adjournment.

Motion: That the meeting is adjourned.

Proposed by: Leonard Bunnell
Seconded by: John Diamantini
Vote: Carried unanimously

Respectfully submitted by,

Albert Skulczyck, Chair
Economic Development Commission

Gloria J. Gathers, Recording Clerk
Approved _____