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4 **Economic Development Commission**
5 **Regular Meeting Minutes**
6 **February 1, 2016**
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9 **Members Present:** Joe Mirra, Chairman
10 Tom Collette
11 Mark Gingras
12 Rosemarie Preneta
13 Jim Wolfe
14

15 **Members Absent:** Gary Fappiano
16 Dick Nunn, Vice-Chair
17

18 **Others Present:** Don Roe, Ec. Dev. Coordinator
19 Tim Ryan, Ec. Dev. Specialist
20 Lynn Wolff, Secretary
21 John LeTourneau, Councilor
22 Gina Morgenstein
23 Larry Morgenstein
24 Jessica Wysocki
25

26 Chairman Joe Mirra called the regular meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at
27 6:32 p.m.
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- 29 1. **Presentation by and discussion with Mr. John Orsini** – Tim Ryan told the EDC he received a call
30 this morning from Mr. Orsini who said he had a conflict and would be unable to attend the EDC
31 meeting.
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- 33 2. **Election of Officers** – Jim Wolfe made a motion to table the election of officers; Rosemarie
34 Preneta seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.
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- 36 3. **Discussion and Possible Action on Regular Meeting Minutes dated December 7, 2015** – Mark
37 Gingras made a motion to approve the minutes as drafted; Jim Wolfe seconded the motion.
38 The motion was approved by unanimous vote.
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- 40 4. **Review of Monthly Expenditure Reports** – No comments were made on the December report.
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43 **5. Committee Reports**

- 44 • **Marketing** – Tom Collette reported that the Committee’s next meeting is February 3. They plan
45 to meet briefly with the Mayor and then start the Committee meeting to work on the 2016-17
46 budget. He had no additional report.

47 Jim Wolfe noticed that Sonic has a billboard on the former Yale Motor Inn property off Route
48 15 and wondered if an EDC billboard could also be located on that property. Mark Gingras
49 thought that was a great location; *Tim Ryan will find out who owns that parcel and contact the*
50 *owner to see if an EDC billboard could also be located on the property.*

51 Joe Mirra thanked the Commissioners and secretary for all their assistance at the Mayor’s
52 State of the Town; he felt it was a successful event.

53 ➤ Next meeting – February 3, 2016.

- 54 • **P&Z Liaison** – Jim Wolfe said he attended the January PZC meeting in support of two projects.
55 The Davenport item passed without problems. The request by the winery for changes to
56 regulations was continued until the February 8 meeting. The EDC discussed some of the issues
57 facing the wineries. Jim thanked the staff for the letter of support to PZC; he thought it was
58 helpful.

59 ➤ Update on: Plan of Conservation & Development – Members discussed the importance of
60 meeting after the POCD is finalized and propose a formal committee to continue. Mark
61 Gingras recommends bi-monthly meetings. Jim assured the EDC that he will continue to
62 attend post-POCD meetings.

63 ➤ Discussion re: downtown – There was no update this month.

64 ➤ Next meeting – No meeting date was set.

- 65 • **Retention/Incentives** –

66 ➤ Follow-up re: Bristol-Myers Squibb – Binswanger has been selected as the broker and will
67 be meeting soon to participate in marketing the campus.

68 ➤ Update on group meetings – Joe Mirra asked if the Committee is in favor of this type of
69 company visit. Rosemarie Preneta said they are but have not had an opportunity to work
70 on it. Don Roe said he has some information for Rosemarie to review in preparation for its
71 next meeting and could discuss it with her after the meeting.

72 Don mentioned that Gary Fappiano has been very busy at his business lately and
73 unable to commit to any Committee meetings; he wondered if another Commissioner
74 would be willing to pinch-hit for Gary so that a Committee meeting can be held. Mark
75 Gingras said he would be willing to help, depending on the date. Rosemarie will contact
76 staff and Mark with some possible dates to meet.

77 ➤ Next meeting – To be scheduled.

78

79 **6. Discussion on local vendor preference** – Don Roe suggested this item remain tabled for now; the
80 EDC agreed.

81

82 **7. Chairman's report** –

83 • Follow-up on Mayor's State of the Town – This was discussed earlier; Joe Mirra had nothing
84 additional to report or discuss.

85

86 **8. Staff reports/regional matters** – Tim Ryan distributed and reviewed the January report (*copy*
87 *attached*). He also mentioned that the US Department of Commerce contacted the office and said
88 that Wallingford is being recognized for having the most export businesses/capita and they are
89 organizing an event for March 14 at Choate Rosemary Hall. Staff was asked to help find a location
90 for the breakfast and also to supply a list of local manufacturers.

91

Don Roe reported:

92

- Staff is unable to attend the Governor's Economic Development Forum on February 16
93 and wondered if a Commissioner might be able to represent the EDC; Rosemarie Preneta
94 said she could attend.

95

- A copy of the 2015 grand list was distributed to the Commission for its review.

96

- The budget hearing with the Mayor is scheduled for March 15.

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98 **9. Dates to Remember** – Nothing further to report.

99

100 **10. Community Involvement** – Rosemarie Preneta was asked if Amphenol and Times Fiber were part of
101 the Key Account program; Rosemarie said they were not. The EDC asked that they be added; Joe
102 Mirra and Jim Wolfe both said they were willing to contact them. *Jim Wolfe asked that the list of Key*
103 *Accounts be reviewed at the next EDC meeting; staff will send the current list out prior to the meeting.*

104

105 **There being no further business, Jim Wolfe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23**

106 **p.m.; Mark Gingras seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

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Sincerely,

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Lynn M. Wolff, Secretary

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Attachments

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EDCRMMin20116DrNotApp

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