

Town of East Haven, CT
Economic Development Commission Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2017
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MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Limoncelli
Commissioner Enders
Commissioner Bittner

STAFF PRESENT:

Sal Brancati, Director

Chairman Limoncelli called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made to approve the minutes of the November 28th meeting by Commissioner Bittner and seconded by Commissioner Enders. All were in favor, none were opposed and none abstained. **MOTION CARRIED**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT/SMALL CITIES

Director Brancati informed the commission that there are several projects going on in Town. He has received a series of grants from the State with regard to the West End of Main Street which should kick off in the spring in three phases. He has all the approvals and the work that will be done will be the same as near Town Hall with regard to lighting and sidewalks, etc. It will start at Kimberly Avenue near CVS and go to the New Haven line. The sidewalk project for North High Street will also begin in the early spring on the school side up to the firing range. The raising of Coe/Hemingway Avenue is awaiting final approval for flood control. The skate park will be done using a grant from the State. It will be located at the tennis courts on Hudson Street near the middle school. It will need to go out to bid. There will be one basketball court and the skate park and the three other tennis courts will stay put. There will be new fencing around Memorial Field including the net at the top which Sal secured as a grant as well.

Industrial Park-158 Commerce-Aguilera Moving/Storage-They are all moved in and operating and have also started construction on the new building.

Big Lots has been doing lots of work in the old Xpect location and estimate their opening to be at the end of April.

ServPro has been remodeling and renovating the old Food Bank building and they are already in operation.

Home Depot Plaza-The 24 hour veterinarian has occupied the last storefront in the building and the owner of the building is updating the facade.

Forbes Fuel has been approved to construct a new gas station/convenience store on Frontage Road in the grassy space between Wendy's and the entrance of Home Depot. It will be a 12 pump service station with the convenience store. 198 Commerce Street was also sold to Forbes for them to do repairs to their trucks and will build additional 10,000 sq. ft. onto the existing building.

The old Apizza Grande building on Coe Avenue-Sal has informed the New haven Elks Club that they have until February 17th to make a decision on the building or he will present it to the other interested parties as time is of the essence.

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200 Tyler Street-Development agreement signed and the CHFA application has been submitted-deposit given-now just waiting on approvals from CHFA. They could close by October but everything is moving in the right direction.

Rock and Jump is opening in the Ocean State Building. The Town held a job fair for them and over 100 people showed up. There will be a ribbon cutting on February 4th.

The old Durso's garage on Hemingway/Coe has been sold to Standard Oil and they are awaiting approval for new pumps and a convenience store.

Sal discussed a new mixed use development on Hemingway Avenue. The site plan has been approved for 75 units of 55 and older housing with retail in front. He is hopeful that final approval will be granted sometime in February.

The old Master Bait and Tackle property is being looked into opening the pumps and possibly a convenience store again but he isn't 100% on whether or not the owner will come through with his plan.

There is a MOU for a solar farm for the landfill and Sal will be doing an RFP at no cost with Murtha Cullina for a lease of the land for the panels which will also be a large reduction in the Town's energy costs.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

There being no further business to come before the commission, **MOTION** made by Commissioner Bittner and seconded by Commissioner Enders to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. All were in favor, none were opposed and none abstained. **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda S. LaLuna

Clerk