

## GOSHEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

### REGULAR MEETING – MINUTES

December 19, 2022 6:00 PM

In Person and Zoom

**PRESENT** - (Seated): Scott Olson, Henrietta Horvay, Philip Koenig (Alternate), John Carroll (Alternate), Marie Bate. **ATTENDANCE:** Heidi Koenig (left at 6:35 pm). **ZOOM:** Peter Kujawski (Seated) Todd Carusillo, and Bernard Harrington. **ABSENT:** Neil White.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Scott Olson called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW EDC COMMISSIONERS:** Each commissioner presented themselves. *Philip Koenig* stated that he attended a town meeting and from that meeting decided he wanted to stay and serve in this community. He works in Winsted and volunteers at the Goshen Fire Department. He is hoping to have a business here and buy a house. *Scott Olson* has been Chair since 2021. He has lived in Goshen his whole life, and resides with his wife and 2 daughters. *Heidi Koenig* has been a member for a long time. She lives in town with her husband and son. She has a daughter in Virginia. *Henrietta Horvay* has lived in Goshen for 48 years. She was Selectman for 21 years and has served on multiple boards. She is on the Library Board, President of Goshen Historical Society and active in church (St. Thomas of Villanova). For 25 years she has been active in the Tyler Lake Association. *John Carroll* is married and a father of 2 children. He is a farmer by trade and runs Briar Hill Farm in Goshen with his wife. He has a passion for Goshen. *Peter Kujawski* is a member and spoke of how productive this group is. *Neil White* was absent.

**ELECTION OF EDC OFFICERS:** Scott opened nominations for Chair and stated election of officers is open. There were none. Peter Kujawski nominated Scott Olson as Chair and Henrietta Horvay seconded. Closed by Scott Olson. Scott Olson (Chair), Philip Koenig - New (Alternate), Henrietta Horvay (now regular member vs Alternate), John Carroll - New (Alternate), Heidi Koenig, Peter Kujawski, Neil White.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion made by Henrietta Horvay and seconded by John Carroll to approve October 24, 2022 regular meeting minutes. It was voted to accept the motion. Motion carries.

**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2022:** Scott discussed a correction issue to the September minutes. Minutes read - Scott Olson called meeting to order at 6:05 pm, meeting canceled due to no quorum. Meeting never called to order. Should read - at 6:05 pm meeting cancelled until next month, as there was no quorum. Motion made by Henrietta Horvay and seconded by Philip Koenig to make the corrections. Scott will amend and submit to Barbara at the Town Office.

**OLD BUSINESS: Look back at 2022:** Scott spoke of EDC accomplishments this past year. Some recaps: 1). In 2022 set up EDC commissioner liaison program – did not get utilized as much as expected but was used to help John and Janelle of Briar Hill Farm. 2). Saw GBC and EDC collaborate parallel issues, which benefitted local business. 3). Revitalization - meetings in the spring with the town (Todd) and State of CT regarding the traffic circle (preserve rural character and tradition of rotary while improving safety). 4). 2022 was the first time EDC had real life interaction with local businesses in town (great interaction). 5.) Briar Hill Farm got a new regulation approved. EDC played a great role. 6.) EDC worked with Action Wildlife's new owners and was well received. 7). Joe Rocco of Rocco Carting, Inc. out of Watertown worked with EDC and set up a garbage route here in Goshen. 8). Anita and Bert from the Milk and

Honey Grill had issues with signage, and EDC was able to help. 9). CDC helped get small scale manufacturing approved; which is good for the town. 10). EDC helped get the size of signs increased so a business could have a larger sign outside. 11). This past summer EDC recommended to BOS to sign a regulation for C-Pace green energy bank, which is an innovative financing solution from Connecticut Green Bank that makes green energy upgrades safe, accessible and affordable. A great benefit to people who own a business.

**NEW BUSINESS:** a.) **Set a schedule for 2023:** EDC meetings have been on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month, with the exception of November and December due to the holidays. Proposed schedule is set for the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month with the exception of November and December, which will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday due to the holidays. Time will remain at 6 pm. Motion was made by Peter Kujawski to approve 2023 schedule and seconded by Scott Olson. Motion approved by all members. Scott will present this to Barbara at the Town Office.

b.) **Goals and Objectives for 2023:** Many topics were discussed by commissioners regarding what they would like to see in Goshen in the future. Philip Koenig spoke of spot zoning for commercial zoning in Central Business Zones. Lots of areas might be able to expand or be opened up for a new business to move in. Scott agrees that this should be discussed and it will be on next month's agenda. Philip also talked about affordable housing – low income housing or apartments, which would help young people to settle in Goshen. He stated that young people can't afford to live here. He said this went before P&Z in the past, but did not go through. Since there are regulations in town to build apartments on commercial property, Scott stated that the EDC could take on an active role in this. Peter Kujawski stated that an affordable housing plan is in place in Goshen. He felt it is also important to attract young people to stay in Goshen. Scott also mentioned that he would like to see our commission work closer with Goshen Housing Trust. He will reach out to them. Philip also stated that it would be great if Goshen had a material place to compost mulch, sand, etc. Scott will look into the regulations and stated that we could possibly apply for new regulations if needed. Also a stone yard could be a good opportunity for a business (Goshen used to have one). Other ideas were a feed store and a doctor in town. John Carroll stated that we should attract new businesses to our town, for example an eatery. Finally, Scott asked each commissioner to bring new ideas to the monthly meetings.

**Public Comment:** Bernard Harrington commented on liking all the ideas presented by commissioners regarding goals and objectives for 2023. Todd Carusillo congratulated the new commissioners and thanked those who remained on the Board. He also discussed the changes he would like to see in downtown Goshen in the future. He is working on the Scoville Park Project with Henrietta Horvay.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM in a motion by Henrietta Horvay and seconded by Philip Koenig.

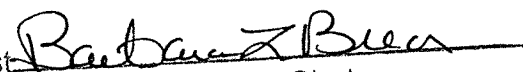
Respectfully submitted,

Marie Bate



Commission Clerk

Received Dec. 21, 2022 9:33 P.M.

Attest   
Goshen Town Clerk