Town of Cromwell
Economic Development Commission

Regular Meeting
6:30pm Thursday, July 16, 2015
Room 224/5 Cromwell Town Hall

Minutes and Record of Votes

Present: Chairman Dick Nobile, Robert Jahn, Stanley Stachura

Also Present: Town Planner Stuart Popper, Town Council Liaison Mertie Terry

1. Call to Order
   The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by Chairman Nobile

2. Roll Call/Seating of Alternates
   The above members were noted.

3. Approval of Agenda

   A **motion** was made by Robert Jahn and **seconded** by Stanley Stachura to approve the agenda. *All were in favor; the motion passed.*

4. Public Comments

   Erin Bogan of the Lower CT River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCog) explained a grant received for regional economic growth strategy for 17 towns in Middlesex County. She said we will be looking at economic factors that are lacking and collecting feedback. She said the project will kick start next week and will be very data intensive. She said we hired consultants and will have focus groups and other meetings including meeting with Economic Development Commissions. She said the name of the project is Forward. She said the final implementation phase will be in December. Ms. Bogan said the consultant from Providence that they hired is great and will get data that we have never seen before.

   Ms. Bogan said that they will be also be publishing a Plan of Conservation and Development in 2016 which is a separate entity from the Forward project.

   Chairman Nobile said our POCD is due in 2017. How do we correlate the two?

   Ms. Bogan said with a lot of planning and with your staff. She said we are building our plans a lot broader. She said RiverCog is a new region so we want to form a new relationship.

   Mr. Popper asked if they will accept nominations for the Regional Economic Strategic Growth committee since there is no one from Cromwell on the Committee. Ms. Bogan said yes, they are still adding people to the list. There was a discussion on Middletown and their influence on the surrounding communities.

   Ms. Bogan said she would like to reconnect with this Commission in the Fall/early Winter. Mr. Popper said he would send her the email addresses for everyone on the Commission.

5. New Business
6. Town Planners Report

7. Economic Developers Report

   Mr. Popper reviewed his report dated July 8, 2015. He said that GKN is expanding again and would like to add 25 parking spaces and showed a map of the area. Chairman Nobile asked if he anticipated any resistance. Mr. Popper said no it is an accessory use for a permitted activity. Chairman Nobile asked who would take care of the parking lot. Mr. Popper said I will conform that it is GKN.

   Mr. Popper also said the Crown Plaza was bought by a new company and there are possible improvements planned there.

   Chairman Nobile asked if the lot were the Dunkin Donuts parking will be was a building lot. Mr. Popper said yes, it was approved many years ago but nothing was ever built.

8. Old Business
   a. North Tier STEAP Grant

   Mr. Popper said the work continues on County Line Drive and they are working on getting gas down there. He said the contractor has 180 days to get the work done.

   He said Shady Lane is under construction and is connected to Congress. He said there is no public access to Evergreen.

   Mr. Popper said work continues on Northern Woods, Buck Crossings and One Willbrook.

   He said the Fed Ex project will be in front of the Middletown Planning and Zoning in August. We will comment on the traffic and needed improvements to the intersection.

9. Communications: (see attached P & Z minutes)

10. Chairman's Comments/Commissioner's Comments –

11. Approval of Minutes

   a. June 18, 2015

   A **motion** was made by Robert Jahn and **seconded** by Chairman Nobile to approve the minutes of June 18, 2015. *Stanley Stachura abstained; the motion passed.*

12. Good and Welfare

13. Adjourn

A **motion** was made by Stanley Stachura and **seconded** by Robert Jahn to adjourn at 7:08pm. *All were in favor; the motion was passed.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Imme
Recording Clerk

2