

Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting
Unapproved Minutes
December 14, 2015

The regular meeting of the Prospect Economic Development Commission was called to order by Mark Graveline @ 7:15 p.m. The meeting was held in the large upstairs conference room at the Prospect Town Hall, 36 Center Street.

Members Present: Larry Rifkin, Mark Graveline and Louis Booth

Members Absent: Ron Laone and Peter Hughes

Guests: Ordinance Sub-Committee Member: Theresa Graveline
Al Delelle and Jeff Slapikas were not in attendance.

Old Business: Theresa Graveline of the Ordinance Sub-Committee of the Prospect Town Council attended the meeting to discuss the 'Draft' of the Town of Prospect for a Business Incentive Tax Abatement Ordinance. L. Rifkin began the discussion to advise that he had contacted the Mayor of Wolcott, Tom Dunn and Ron Pugliese, CEO of Naugatuck's Economic Development Corporation. L. Rifkin explained that he and Mayor Dunn discussed #11 of Ordinance #93: "The Applicant will be the sole occupant of the percent of the total square footage of the Improvement for which the abatement is requested for the full term of the abatement". Mayor Dunn explained that the abatement is based on the Assessor's assessment and the tax paying entity accrues the benefits. L. Rifkin also advised that the application would be reviewed by a Tax Incentive Committee. L. Rifkin advised that his discussion with R. Pugliese was to ascertain what his job description was as per the previous EDC meeting; L. Rifkin and T. Graveline had discussed what the job would entail for a new position in the Town of Prospect. L. Rifkin commented that R. Pugliese stated that to the best of his knowledge, he did not have a job description. L. Rifkin proceeded to ask T. Graveline the steps that were necessary to go forward. T. Graveline explained that the Ordinance Sub-committee would review, then forwarded to the Town's Attorney and Town Council, once approved then Public Hearing. T. Graveline advised that Sub-committee member Jeff Slapikas was in contact with the Economic Development Coordinator of the Town of Watertown. The discussion continued with comments to rephrase #11 of the Ordinance, what types of businesses the EDC would like to attract, create steps for qualifying for the abatement and to make the application as simple and concise as possible. M. Graveline advised that the main purpose of this Ordinance is to increase the tax base. M. Graveline commented that the form should be simple and understandable. M. Graveline also stated that it would be best to look at other Towns including Wethersfield, Naugatuck and Watertown. L. Rifkin concluded that he would like to speak with Jeff Slapikas on his thoughts that he had received from speaking with the Economic Development Coordinator of Watertown. L. Rifkin noted that he would like to have further discussions on this Ordinance and to have clarity of definitions prior to the final decision on the Ordinance.

New Business: None

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** made by M Graveline, seconded by L. Rifkin to approve the minutes of November 9, 2015. **Unanimous.**

Adjournment: **Motion** made by L. Rifkin, seconded by M. Graveline to adjourn the meeting. **Unanimous.** The meeting adjourned @ 8:23 p.m.

Mark Graveline

Rosalyn B. Moffo, Clerk