



Town of Griswold



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**GRISWOLD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
GRISWOLD TOWN HALL**

**APPROVED MINUTES
OCTOBER 21, 2015**

I. REGULAR MEETING (7:00 P.M.)

1. Call to Order

Chairman Thomas Giard, Jr. called this regular meeting of the Griswold Economic Development Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Chairman Thomas Giard, Jr., Paul Lach, Charlotte Geer, James W. Barnie Ken Bousquet, Town Planner Mario J. Tristany and Recording Secretary Donna Szall

3. Determination of Quorum

T. Giard stated that there was a quorum for this regular meeting of the Economic Development Commission.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of meeting minutes of August 19, 2015 September 16, 2015

T. Giard asked for any corrections or omissions on the minutes of September 16, 2015.

MOTION: J. Barnie moved to approve the minutes of August 19, 2015. P. Lach seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

T. Giard asked for any corrections or omissions on the minutes of August 19, 2015.

MOTION: C. Geer moved to approve the minutes of September 19, 2015. P. Lach seconded the motion. All were in favor the motion was carried.

5. Public Comment

T. Giard asked if there was anyone who would like to make public comment. There was no one present to make a public comment.

6. Matters Presented for Consideration

A. Discussion and update of a Town of Griswold Commercial Small Business Revolving Fund

T. Giard explained that this is still pending. He explained that the United Community Services will receive its funding after the new year. He stated that UCFS wish to purchase the adjacent property through a tax sale for property across the street and the plant site. There was discussion of this matter.

B. Discussion and update of STEAP grant downtown streetscape improvements

M. Tristany stated that there was Dept. of Agriculture funding for \$50,000 to purchase equipment and 16 lights for Main Street. M. Tristany stated that there was a meeting with JC electric to install the 14 poles that have been purchased before the snow files for installation and activation. P. Lach stated that under JC Electric there will be an assessment of the lights will be taxed. He stated that JC Electric should pay the customer contributed tax. M. Tristany stated that JC Electric will maintain the lights. There was discussion of this matter.

T. Giard stated that the \$50 thousand USDA grant will bring the lights to a total of 37 lights. He said that DPW will get a price for installation of the 14 lights. M. Tristany asked if it was No. 10 wire. P. Lach stated that it was small wire to feed through conduit. He asked which side of Main Street the lights will be installed. M T stated that the work will be on the East side of Main Street.

C. Continuation of review of potential zoning impediments to economic development.

M. Tristany stated that the letter was read at the October Planning and Zoning Meeting and it was tabled to November 9 for T. Giard to give a presentation. T. Giard asked other members to come to the P & Z meeting on November 9, 2015. M. Tristany stated that this will call for a public hearing and there will be 35 days to notify all the abutting municipalities. C. Geer stated that there will be controversy at this public hearing. T. Giard asked that the members make a list of the items that should be looked at for the planner to review for the next meeting.

D. Discussion regarding the sale of municipally-owned properties.

J. Barnie stated that he is not in favor of selling the school street property. P. Lach stated that the property should not be sold to tax exempt organizations.

M. Tristany stated that the sale of property to the NCDC. P. Lach stated that a handicapped fishing area could be part of the river walk. T. Giard suggested that this area be cleaned up to the waterfront for the river walk or to attract a buyer.

J. Barnie stated that there is funding for part of a river walk. T. Giard stated that J. Vincent could apply for a grant to for the walk and green way project. There was discussion of this matter.

T. Giard stated that the Miller property has 17 acres for sale and H. Polinsky has 127 acres behind it which is part of the business park. He stated that the town could buy the properties for the business park and lots could be sold. There was discussion of this matter including obtaining USDA funding

T. Giard explained that the Ceruzzi property could be part of the river walk. He stated that this parcel has the potential to be a high end RV sight since it is by the golf course. He stated that there could be recreational activities for the high end RV users and for the public. He stated that 10 acres could be for a super market as well. There was discussion of this matter.

7. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

8. Other Matters

A. FYI - Ethics, Accountability, and Conflicts of Interest handout from CCM workshop on October 8, 2015.

P. Lach explained that he had attended a seminar here at the Town Hall regarding ethics and that it was very interesting and it explained the various conflicts of interest. There was discussion of this matter.

P. Lach stated that there needed to be more communication with the Borough. He stated that there should be changes to allow the borough to be on this commission. He suggested that there be copies of the latest Borough minutes to have an idea of what the Borough is doing. There was discussion of this matter.

8. Adjournment

T. Giard asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: C. Geer moved to adjourn the Griswold Economic Development Commission P. Lach seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Szall
Recording Secretary