



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK Economic Development Commission

302 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475
Telephone (860) 395-3139 • FAX (860) 395-3125

Matthew Pugliese, Chair
Carol Conklin, Vice Chair
John DeCristoforo, Secretary/Treasurer

David Cole
Judy Ganswindt
Sandra Roberts
Elizabeth Swenson
Joseph Arcari, Alternate
David Prendergast, Alternate

MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 2019

2nd Floor Conference Room, Old Saybrook Town Hall

7:30 pm

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Matthew Pugliese called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Members present: Matthew Pugliese, John DeCristoforo, David Cole, Sandra Roberts, Elizabeth Swenson, Joseph Arcari, David Prendergast

Members absent: Carol Conklin, Judy Ganswindt

III. PUBLIC QUESTION & COMMENT

IV. GUEST – Daniels Propane – Permit Application for Zoning Text Change re: Propane Storage

Present for Daniels Propane: David Daniels, owner, John Daniels, and Attorney Ed Cassella.

David Daniels explained that they would like to consolidate three different aspects of the business in one place, and that the move to Mill Rock Road in Old Saybrook would allow them to accomplish this. They propose to construct a building for storage of parts for heating and air conditioning, and would have trucks and propane on site.

Attorney Cassella explained that current zoning regulations allow for maximum propane storage of 20,000 gallons. Daniels Propane would like to increase this to 60,000 gallons, with proposed two tanks of 30,000 gallons each.

Members asked about safety and distance from the daycare center. Mr. Daniels responded that the facility would fall under NFPA 58 Code and would be built to a minimum of national safety codes; and that the building would be 500 feet away from the daycare center, a standard typical of a residential area.

MOTION to approve support of the Permit Application for Zoning Text Change; **MADE** by E. Swenson, **SECONDED** by D. Cole; The motion passed unanimously.

S. Beckman is to draft a letter of support.

V. STAFF REPORT

S. Beckman distributed a monthly staff report. One of the highlights is that Stencilease is installing solar rooftop panels.

VI. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes: September 12, 2019

MOTION to approve the meeting minutes of September 12, 2019; **MADE** by J. DeCristoforo, **SECONDED** by E. Swenson; **VOTING IN FAVOR**: M. Pugliese, S. Roberts, E. Swenson, J. Arcari, and J. DeCristoforo; **OPPOSED**: None; **ABSTAINING**: D. Cole and D. Prendergast; **APPROVED**: 5-0-2.

B. Correspondence & Announcements

- S. Beckman spoke to business owner Meghan Smith who is developing an online platform to promote shoreline tourism. The web site is Explorectshoreline.com
- S. Beckman received a letter from the town of Windsor Locks, regarding the foreign trade zone, wanting to make her aware that our municipality falls within foreign trade zone 71. A foreign trade zone is a geographic area in a U.S. port of entry where commercial merchandise, both domestic and foreign, receives the same Customs treatment it would if it were outside the commerce of the United States.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discuss potential Zone Change for 91 Sheffield Street

Members discussed the pros and cons of changing the zone from Marine Commercial to Residential. D. Cole stated one of the concerns of the Harbor Management Commission is that all marinas may want to turn residential. He doesn't think this particular site lends itself to marine activity.

Members looked at flood maps and noted the area is not in the 50-year or 100-year flood zone. Members discussed the value of having more housing that would increase the tax base, weighed against removal of marine industrial use.

B. Old Saybrook Complete Count Committee

S. Beckman reported that a representative for the south eastern CT Census Department presented information. Their goal is to get the word out that it is safe to share your information, and okay to respond to the census taker. She noted it's important to take the census as it affects federal money allocations to towns.

VIII. ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS

- A. ED PoCD Update – no update
- B. Marketing Plan – geofencing is starting, a report will be given next month
- C. Marketing Plan – no report
- D. Recognition of Long-Term Businesses/Spirit of Saybrook – no report
- E. Arts & Culture – S. Beckman reported she is waiting to receive funds to make the purchase of the hardware for installation of the hallway art project.

D. Cole left at 9:00pm.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

X. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

XI. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Economic Development Commission which will be held on November 12, 2019 at 7:30pm, Town Hall, 302 Main Street, second floor conference room; **MADE** by J. DeCristoforo; **SECONDED** by J. Arcari; **VOTING IN FAVOR**: M. Pugliese, J. DeCristoforo, S. Roberts, E. Swenson, J. Arcari, and D. Prendergast; **OPPOSED**: None; **ABSTAINING**: None; **APPROVED**: 6-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Meryl Moskowitz
Recording Clerk