



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK  
**Economic Development Commission**

302 Main Street  
Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475  
[oldsaybrookct.gov](http://oldsaybrookct.gov)

*Matthew Pugliese, Chair*  
*Carol Conklin, Vice Chair*  
*John DeCristoforo,*  
*Secretary/Treasurer*  
*Joseph Arcari*  
*David Cole*  
*Elizabeth Swenson*  
*Sandra Roberts, Alternate*  
*Judy Ganswindt, Alternate*

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, December 13 at 7:30 P.M.  
Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room  
302 Main Street, Old Saybrook

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Matt Pugliese called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Members present: Matthew Pugliese, David Cole, Elizabeth Swenson, John DeCristoforo, Carol Conklin arrived at 7:43pm, Sandra Roberts arrived at 8:18pm

Members absent: Joseph Arcari, Judy Ganswindt

Staff: Susan Beckman, Economic Development Director, Meryl Moskowitz, Recording Clerk

**III. PUBLIC QUESTION & COMMENT**

**IV. GUEST**

**V. REGULAR BUSINESS**

A. Approval of Minutes: November 8, 2018

**MOTION** to approve the November 8, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented;  
**MADE** by J. DeCristoforo, **SECONDED** by D. Cole; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** M. Pugliese, D. Cole, E. Swenson, J. DeCristoforo; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINING:** None;  
**APPROVED:** 4-0-0.

B. Correspondence & Announcements

Economic Development Director Susie Beckman commented on changes to the members of the Commission, with James Keating's resignation. Members questioned what the process is for bringing new members onto the Commission. M. Pugliese said he will ask First Selectman Carl Fortuna to clarify the nominating process.

S. Beckman received a letter from Professional Engineer Joe Wren asking for a letter of support for Hope & Stetson, to open a location at 40 Elm Street, for both fulfillment and some retail. The location is not currently zoned for retail, and approval of a special exception would be needed from the Zoning Commission. Members agreed more information is needed and will invite Mr. Wren to the January 10, 2019 meeting for a briefing.

S. Beckman distributed an email letter dated November 27, 2018 from Patty Marshall, teacher and realtor, who is on the Old Saybrook school's public relation's committee., regarding real estate trends in town.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

### A. FY20 Budget

S. Beckman reviewed the FY 2020 budget. There was discussion about several line items and general agreement with the overall budget.

Carol Conklin announced there is a Town Budget workshop on Saturday January 26, 2019 when the budget will be presented to the Board of Finance.

**MOTION** to approve the proposed FY 2020 budget as drafted; **MADE** by D. Cole; **SECONDED** by E. Swenson; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** M. Pugliese, D. Cole, E. Swenson, J. DeCristoforo, C. Conklin, S. Roberts; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINING:** None; **APPROVED:** 4-0-0.

## VII. ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS

### A. ED PoCD Update – no update

### B. Mariner's Way Redevelopment

S. Beckman reported that a press release in support of TIF is ready to go, and is a joint announcement with the Board of Selectmen.

### C. Marketing Plan

S. Beckman reported that the videos are coming together for Mariner's Way. She attended the public relations committee meeting of the Old Saybrook schools.

### D. Recognition of Long-Term Businesses/Spirit of Saybrook – no update

### E. Arts & Culture

S. Beckman reported that the Rotary Club is willing to be a non profit sponsor for the Eversource payment that will purchase the hanging system for the hallway art.

E. Swenson reported for The Preserve: there is a meeting of The Preserve's Conservation and Management Committee Friday, December 14, to discuss hunting in The Preserve. E. Swenson explained that since approximately one-third of the purchase of the land came from Fish & Wildlife, they are now requesting hunting at certain times of the year. She stated her concern about safety, especially since a park adjoins The Preserve adjoins. She also reported that Eversource may help with clearing brush underneath the power lines that run through The Preserve.

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. OS Schools PR Committee representative/other commission representatives – Video Launch. S Beckman reported that there are openings for representatives on Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission and to the Zoning Commission.

There was discussion about having a workshop for businesses to plan for recovery from natural disasters and for dealing with sea level rise.

### B. Wayfinding Signage – Saybrook Point Sign \$2,526.32

S. Beckman explained the proposed new signage at Saybrook Point and showed an example of the design.

**MOTION** to approve the expenditure of \$2,526.32 for purchase of the Wayfinding Signage at Saybrook Point; **MADE** by J. DeCristoforo; **SECONDED** by D. Cole; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** M. Pugliese, D. Cole, E. Swenson, J. DeCristoforo, C. Conklin, S. Roberts; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINING:** None; **APPROVED:** 6-0-0.

**IX. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**

**X. PUBLIC QUESTION & COMMENT**

**XI. STAFF REPORT**

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 9:03pm until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Economic Development Commission which will be held on January 10, 2019 at 7:30pm, Town Hall, 302 Main Street, second floor conference room; **MADE** by J. DeCristoforo; **SECONDED** by D. Cole; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** M. Pugliese, D. Cole, E. Swenson, J. DeCristoforo, C. Conklin, S. Roberts; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINING:** None; **APPROVED:** 6-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Meryl Moskowitz  
Recording Clerk