

MINUTES  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE  
October 17, 2016

The Regular Meeting of the Monroe Township Economic Development Commission was called to order by Chairperson Tony Langella at 7:00 pm in the 3<sup>RD</sup> Floor Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex. Notice of this meeting was given as required by the annual notice of meetings.

Chairperson Tony Langella led the Commission in the salute to our flag.  
Christine Feggans offered the Invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present: Tony Langella, Jared Valdez, Ernie Carbone, Thomas Swartz, Aileen Chiselko and Christine Feggans.

Absent: Tony Iovino, Natalie Wentz, Robert Bender, and Cncl. Bart McIlvaine

WELCOME MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Tony welcomed all of the members who were present and guests. Council candidate for Ward 4, Joe Marino was present and said that he was attending out of curiosity and hoping to get some insight and answers. He mentioned that during his walking and campaigning, he has heard quite a few questions about the Economic Development of the town, stabilization of taxes and ratables. Frank Stellaccio of B&F Landscaping also was in attendance as he is interested in becoming a member of the Economic Development Commission. Tony said that is great, because there will be at least one vacancy at the end of the year and Aileen gave him a Citizen Leadership form to complete. Councilman Bob Heffner was also in attendance.

READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tara Park, the Secretary of the EDC read the minutes for all in attendance.

Ernie made a motion to approve the minutes as written and read, and Tom second the motion, all were in favor and none were opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

MAIN STREET - Ernie said that they are hoping to have the Permit completed soon for the demolition of Dr. Brillers new multi-family property on Main Street, and that they also hope to have a construction fence around the property for the Halloween Parade to show progress. He also reported that the Beauty Salon at the former Images is taking a while to complete their renovations as they had flooding issues with the last big rain storm. The Cobbler is also taking longer than anticipated, he stated. Ernie noted that Blue Anchor Brewery received a Cease and Desist for their name, and they are currently holding a contest to help name it.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (WILLIAMSTOWN/GLOUCESTER COUNTY) – Ernie and Tony reported that there is nothing coming up, but a meeting is going to be held next week. They both commended the Chamber as it now has 92 members since January.

UPDATE ON MUNICIPAL MAP – The Subcommittee met and went over changes that needed to be made. There will be an update and then sent out for approval, and then sent to print. There was a discussion about Tom's recommendation about adding a ward map overlay or ward map on the informational section, and Sue said that would have to be approved by the Township Clerk, Sue McCormick. There was also a mention that this might hold up the printing and it was agreed upon by the

members to not hold it up any longer and proceed as planned. Tom recommended maybe putting all of the Township maps on the website and Aileen noted that Sue McCormick would have to approve the ward map being on there as well.

**SPOTLIGHT ON SMALL BUSINESS** – Christine stated that La Bamba and the Beauty Salon of North Main Street were in front of the meeting this month, and next month will be the Brewery formerly known as Blue Anchor.

**SMALL BUSINESS WORKSHOPS AT ROWAN** - Jared explained that this might be a beneficial thing to offer again, or maybe even throughout the year. Tony stated for Jared to get the costs and get back to the Commission, but everyone agreed that it sounds like a great idea.

**TROLLEY TOUR - SUASION COMMUNICATIONS** - Ernie and Tony said that Sue from Suasion is putting together a Familiarity Tour and Trolley with Investors and Dignitaries and Township Officials to highlight businesses in the town, and land that is available to try to promote these areas to the investors. Ernie and Tony will be going from the EDC, and said that unfortunately it will be limited space due to the amount invitations sent out and hopefuls attending. It will start at the Public Library with a presentation by the Mayor and then proceed throughout Town with multiple stops and end at the Autumn Lake Winery on Malaga Rd.

**CREATING A BUSINESS FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT** - The members present and guest Joe Marino talked about dealing with the process coming into Monroe Township for permits and approvals, also talked about Monroe in comparison to other towns. Joe commended the Township Offices in Monroe for their efficiency and assistance with all of his projects he has done in town. He said that most other towns are not as friendly, or quick with their process and talked about some of his experiences. Ernie asked the Secretary, Tara Park, if she had any recommendations to make the process and smoother. Tara said that the main thing that would help is if any prospective business, investor or builder were directed immediately to the Director of Community Development, Rosemary Flaherty. She noted that once they get to Rosemary she will meet with them and give them the requirements she has and contact any other entities, agencies, or offices that the project may be involved with during their project. Tara asked where the phone number on the website is directed to and they said an EDC voicemail. Tara recommended to put the extension of the Zoning Office, ZBA and Planning Board Secretaries so that they are directed to the correct place to start and set up a meeting with Rosemary. Ernie said he was going to sit with Rosemary on Thursday and confirm the information, discuss any way to make the process more efficient and get the changes made. There was also a discussion about setting Parameters for Buildings, and Tom said that the area needs to be designated a Redevelopment Zone and then the Parameters can be set.

**NEW PROJECTS FOR 2017-** Tony asked everyone to start thinking of projects for 2017.

#### ROUNDTABLE

**TONY-** Tony mentioned that it was suggested a “Come Grow with Williamstown” page on LinkedIn and all members agreed that would be a good thing.

**TOM** – Nothing to discuss

**JARED** – Nothing to discuss

**CHRISTINE** - Christine said that she participated in the Active Threat Training and it was a phenomenal experience, especially since she needed the first responders the day after for a family emergency. She said that it makes her want to do more with the first responders, and a few of them even recognized her from the night before. She also noted that she walked around Rockin’ Jump and it looks like a great thing.

**ERNIE** – Ernie stated that the Chamber is working on their website, and that the EDC as a whole needs to stay on Susan from Suasion and push together.

Tony asked if Frank Stellaccio had anything to say, and he said he did not except that he thought he knew a lot about what's going on in town, and that after listening to the meeting he was wrong. He turned his form over to Aileen in hopes to be appointed to the Commission in January.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairperson Tony Langella asked for a motion to adjourn. Ernie made a motion to adjourn the Monroe Township Economic Development Commission Meeting of October 17, 2016. The motion was seconded by Jared; all in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Park  
Secretary of the Economic Development Commission

The next scheduled Monroe Township Economic Development Commission meeting is Monday, November 21, 2016 at 7pm in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor meeting room.

*These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Regular Economic Development Commission Meeting of October 17, 2016 and serve as only a synopsis of the proceedings.*

Approved as submitted \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved as corrected \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_