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DATE: 8/12/09  
TIME: 1:50 pm  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

**Town of Seymour  
Economic Development Commission**

**Minutes  
Tuesday – August 4, 2009 @ 7:00pm  
Flaherty Room – Town Hall**

Member Presents: Jon Szuch, Rosalie Averill, Joe Cass, Marietta Sabetta, Ted Holly,  
Michael H. Horbal.

Members Absent: Ron Balabon.

Others: Joe Sullivan, Video Production Associates, Shelton.

ITEM# 1 Call Meeting in Order.

Meeting called in order at 7:00pm by Chairman Jon Szuch.

ITEM # 2 Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Jon Szuch.

ITEM # 3 First Selectman Comments.

First Selectman Robert J. Koskelowski not present at the moment.

ITEM # 4 Approval of July 1, 2009 Minutes.

Motion to approve minutes with the following correction:

Under ITEM # 7 the last paragraph should read – The Commission suggested the Strand to take over the ice-cream shop next door. The Commissioners feel this would provide additional services to the moviegoers and it would reopen a business facility that is being closed for over a year.

Motion: Rosalie Averill

Second: Marietta Sabetta

Vote: Yes- 5

No-0

Abstain-1 (M. H. Horbal)

Disqualified-0

Absent-1 (R. Balabon)

ITEM # 5 Discuss updating Town Video.

The Commissioners invited Joe Sullivan of Video Production Associates in Shelton to join the discussion of updating the Town Video that was first produced by VPA in 2005. A list of shots, interviews and new places to film was created by the Commission and Mr. Sullivan will attend the next meeting to discuss an estimate of all the updates.

ITEM # 6 Update on Railroad Study &

ITEM # 7 Update on Haynes Project &

ITEM # 8 Update on EDC Proposed Zone Changes.

Commissioner Michal H. Horbal gave an update on the status of all the projects listed above.

About the EDC Proposed Zone Changes P&Z had a Public Hearing on July 9, 2009. A few people were present and made comments and had questions about why the changes were being proposed, whether or not the changes would effect the assessment of those properties and consequentially cause an increase in taxes. Alex Budzinski of Housatonic Wire 109 River Street supported the changes EDC proposed as he felt they would benefit his property. Walt Oliwa of 84 New Haven Road LLC stated that he had presented plans to develop the parcel to P&Z in the past but was denied and he was also concerned with the possible increase in taxes. The P&Z commission did not feel comfortable making any changes around the Route 34 area. The P&Z Commission did not take any action at the public hearing and will further discuss the matter at their next meeting on August 13, 2009.

Commissioner Mike H. Horbal was present at the Route 42 and Rout 67 Connector Road Project meeting. The economics of the project and the impact on traffic and the amount of traffic that would be alleviated off Route 8 were discussed. The results show that the project at the moment is not cost-effective and therefore would not gain support from the State or the Federal government. This also means that the Greenway Project is also in limbo. A formal written report will come out within the next few weeks.

The Railroad Project was included with the Route 42 and 67 Connector Road Project and the plans showed the relocation of the train station from Main Street to the other side of the Housatonic River along Franklin Street. These plans are still being considered but as a separate project.

ITEM # 9 ED Director Report.

*Secretaries Report:*

**NH Copper:** had a conference call with Mike Bellotti and Brian Guichard from Olin Corp along with Jim Galligan, Town Engineer about the status of the retaining wall. The plans for the wall are being revised and will need to be approved by Town Engineer. Depending on the specifications of the project, P&Z approval might not be required. The plans that were discussed at the meeting would take about 3-4 days to complete.

**Meeting with State Rep Theresa Conroy:** also present Jon Szuch, EDC Chairman, Robert J. Koskelowski, First Selectman, Rick Dunne, VCOG, Dave Elder, VCOG, Robert Looker, Town Planner, Maya Loewenberg, State DECD. The purpose of the meeting was to communicate to State reps what the Town of Seymour is looking to do in the future to improve the downtown area and the Town as a whole. All present agreed that the Town needs to design a Municipal Development Plan in order to become more competitive when asking the state for funds. The State is much more likely to fund projects that are ready to go.

**New CVS plaza:** traffic plans were approved by Conn DOT. All permits have been pulled with the Building Department and the project is due to start soon.

**New Walgreens:** the project is moving forward and the building is taking shape.

**Website:** updates continue to be made daily.

ITEM # 10 Chairman Report.

Chairman points out what some of the Valley Towns are receiving from the stimulus funds:

- Oxford \$61,000
- Ansonia \$749,000
- Beacon Falls \$5.7 mil
- Seymour \$2.1 mil
- Derby \$152,000
- Naugatuck \$2.8 mil

These are all shovel-ready projects. For more information visit the state of Connecticut website.

ITEM # 11 Business Updates.

No further business updates.

ITEM # 12 Public Comment.

Commissioner Michael H. Horbal complimented Zac Balabon, son of Commissioner Ron Balabon, for contributing to the Seymour Baseball team winning the game.

Commissioner Marietta Sabetta asked about the status of Tri-Town Plaza and the pending lawsuit. The case is still in court. The commissioners will continue to follow the case.

ITEM # 13 Correspondence.

No other correspondence.

ITEM # 14 Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 8:22 pm.

Motion: Rosalie Averill

Second: Ted Holly

Vote: Yes-6

No-0

Abstain-0

Absent-1 (R. Balabon)

Respectfully,

Nancy Onofrio  
Recording Secretary