

**MINUTES**  
**Town of Andover Economic Development Commission (EDC)**  
**February 10th, 2016**  
**Andover Town Hall**

**Call to Order:**

Jim Dake called the meeting to order at 7:23PM

**Present:**

Elaine Buchardt, Patrick Dougherty, Jim Dake, and Jeanne Person

**Absent:** Tim Gilmore

**Public Speak:** Dianne Grenier came to take group picture for the annual report. She also mentioned that 12 Center St was back on the market. We decided to discuss this under New Business. She also mentioned that the Prophet property at the corner of Route 6 and Wales Rd was going to be subdivided to separate the small business on Route 6 and the house on Wales Rd.

**Minutes:** Approved November and January minutes.

**Liaison Reports:**

**Tolland County Chamber of Commerce:** The TCCC and Manchester Chambers held their meeting with legislators on February 4th. Jim and Elaine attended. There was discussion about the federal unemployment supplemental tax bills that were sent to business owners who had employees. It turns out the state of CT has not paid back it's loan from the government to pay the increased unemployment compensations a few years back, so the government is collecting the interest payments from employers. CT was one of four states that have not paid back the loan yet. The business owners were upset that they were not notified by the state, or given a heads up before they got these bills with only a few weeks to pay it.

Elaine was surprised to hear one of the legislators say the CT economic and employment outlook would not improve as long as we had a democratic governor. This kind of politics will do no good improving anything. Very frustrating to hear these things being said by the people we are depending on to smooth things out and work forward on solutions.

It was mentioned that this short session was strictly for budget talks and other topics or bills should be included in the next session.

Jim needs to send Jeanne Person's email to the TCCC. [Jeanneperson@icloud.com](mailto:Jeanneperson@icloud.com). We discussed what the town membership means for the town Andover. We assume municipal employees, boards and commissions can be considered members under the town membership. But are businesses in town also included in that membership? Jim will check into it and see how other towns use their memberships. Depending on the answer will help us know what emails to give to TCCC to disseminate information on their events.

**Planning and Zoning:** There will be a public hearing on April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7PM at the town hall to present the new Plan of Conservation and Development. The POCD is on the website to view currently. There is a public hearing on February 18<sup>th</sup> concerning zoning regulation changes involving the storing of commercial vehicles on residential properties. They don't want to be too restrictive so as to be business friendly. Currently you have to get a variance to keep them at your house. There does need to be consideration of visibility of these vehicles to the neighbors. There will also be discussion at that hearing concerning a Lake Rd resident who wants to fix and sell used cars on his residential property. He says he will have no more than three cars at a time.

Next thing to be tackled is the numerous unsanctioned rentals that are happening in town.

**Farmers Market News:** The winter market is going well. The letters have gone out for the summer market mentioning our new location at the town hall.

**Current Business:** Discussions went long so we will pick up zoning directives next month.

**New Business:** We discussed 12 Center St which is the property some people were trying to get the town to buy. At the town meeting concerning this property, the purchase was voted down. The property was purchased for \$11000 and the new owner started work on the house. The new owner didn't properly follow permit processes or get permission from the building or zoning agents of Andover. It is said he will be putting it up for sale mid process. The BOS re appointed the 12 Center St committee to look to check into the proper usage of this property.

**Assignments:**

Look over the paperwork handed out by Elaine to further discuss how we can create a guide for people in town to work with zoning. Jim to check with TCCC

and find out how our town membership can be used. He will also add Jeanne's email to TCCC distribution list since Jeanne says she doesn't get the emails.

**Next Meeting:** Next regular meeting will be Wednesday, March 9th, 2016.

**Adjournment:** EDC adjourned at 9:00.

Respectfully submitted by: Elaine Buchardt