

BED Meeting Minutes

2/6/13

Attendance:

Councilman D'Orazio, Joe Camarota, Eric Hunt, David Vicente, Sam Micklus, Mayor Wallace, Jack Yerkes, Ralph Grandizio (Absent: David Firman, Anthony Fanty)

Salute to the Flag

Meeting called to order @ 7:30 pm by Chairman Micklus

Discussion:

- Brief discussion on controversy surrounding Tower Commons tax abatement. In hands of Township Solicitor. The issue should have never been presented by the plaintiff's legal counsel to the BED as the issue did not initially come to the BED. No further comments.
- Rotary meeting will be held on 2/7/13, with former Phillie, Milt Thompson, attending.
- Planning and Zoning meetings canceled due to a lack of applications.
- Mayor Wallace mentioned again two new businesses. Presbyterian Homes and Firemen's Credit Union.
- General discussion took place with regards to the recently issued, township wide, county re-assessment.
- MUA: Special meeting called to review the proposed 2 year electric rate. To be re-bid, resulting in a possible savings of \$90k.
- The contents of the marketing package was discussed. It was agreed that the folder should contain a welcome letter from Mayor Wallace, with accompanying testimonials from existing businesses.
- It was noted that Winslow Township recently erected business welcome signs as you enter the town. Mayor Wallace stated that Wash. Twp. has free space on the recently installed programmable sign at NJ Transit.
- Member appointments were discussed with the clarification being made by Councilman D'Orazio that we have membership overlapping terms, to aid in maintaining board stability.
- It was noted that SANDERS Trade Services now occupies the old CAMGLO building.
- Although "Coming Soon" signs are recommended by the planning Board, it is not a requirement for new businesses to install. Councilman D'Orazio recommended to the board that we should recommend to Council that this criteria be required through

ordinance. Ralph Grandizio made a motion to recommend this to council. Second: Eric Hunt. No members opposed.

New Business:

- The zoning department requested updating the sign ordinance to include temporary permanent banners. There was some confusion as to temporary vs. permanent aspects. Several members of the board and the Mayor suggested taking out the word temporary and replace with permanent. Mayor Wallace also suggested obtaining a copy of the current ordinance to see the impact of the change. A BED ordinance review will be conducted. Chairman Micklus suggested to the BED members tasked with ordinance review to meet with Zoning Officer Sherri Donovan, to fully understand the proposed ordinance revision.
- Mayor Wallace is forwarding ordinances to be reviewed to Chairman Micklus. The most recent, #199-4, "Change of Use or Ownership."

Old Business

- BED appreciation certificates for new businesses will be distributed by Councilman D'Orazio and Chairman Micklus.
- Jack Yerkes reported that he had met with Assemblyman Moriarty expressing support for NJ Transit buses to go to Natural Gas Fuel Fired Buses. (**post meeting-2/7/13**: Joe Camarota found out that the USDOT offers a "Clean Fuels Grant Program.")
- At the last meeting, Chairman Micklus tasked Joe Camarota and Jack Yerkes with identifying Grant Opportunities to assist in utility infrastructure improvement to support the DELSEA Drive re-development Zone. As such, Joe Camarota explained that he had contacted the office of Congressman Andrews inquiring as to available Grant opportunities. He received an acknowledgement letter dated 1/11/13 (copy attached), that the Congressman's office had received the inquiry. Little discussion on this topic took place thereafter. (**post meeting-2/7/13**: Joe Camarota followed up with Congressman Andrews office. Chief of Staff, Fran Tagmire, stated that he will be getting back to Joe Camarota with identified opportunities. Joe Camarota also contacted Mr. Willie C. Taylor - Regional Director Economic Development Administration. Mr. Taylor was in Washington, DC today. He stated that his point of contact for NJ is Matt Suchodolski. He can be reached by calling 215-597-1242 or email, matthew.j.suchodolski@eda.gov, or Tonia R. Williams , tonia.r.williams@eda.gov . In response to the inquiry, Mr.

Taylor stated that the municipal utility provider has to demonstrate how the co-investment with EDA will lead to direct job creation and increased private investment. When a scope of work has been defined, the Total Project Cost will consist on non-federal matching share funds that are unencumbered and available at the time of the application. The EDA also takes into consideration the unemployment rate and per capita income to determine eligibility for EDA assistance. He suggested that our township officials contact the EDA office. Additionally, Mr. Bill Anderson - EPA Acting Director - Office of Wastewater Management - Municipal Support was contacted. Joe Camarota is awaiting a response.

NEXT MEETING, 7:30pm, 3/6/13

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Camarota - co-secretary

2/7/13