



# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2022, 7:00 PM

**IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE: TOWN HALL ANNEX, 57 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, CT**  
**REMOTE ATTENDANCE: VIA ZOOM MEETING, INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED BELOW**

**PRESENT:** In Person: Chairman Sean Kelly and Regular Member Chris Todd

Zoom Attendance: Vice Chairman Donna Resutek, Regular Member Jim Fay,  
and Alternates Bryan Platt and Amos Smith (arrived at 7:14 PM)

**ABSENT:** Regular Member David Hurley and Alternate Sam Chang

### STAFF

**PRESENT:** Lisa M. Houlihan, Town Planner and Nathaniel Trask, Recording Clerk

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Sean Kelly called the Economic Development Commission meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS** (on non-agenda items): None

### III. ACTIVE BUSINESS:

1. Report: Tolland County Chamber of Commerce

The Tolland County Chamber of Commerce sent a letter to the Town of Ellington thanking the Commission for renewing its membership. Chairman Kelly said the Chamber will be hosting a business event that the commission may be interested in participating in. Ms. Houlihan said the event is a business showcase that will tentatively be held on Tuesday, April 5th from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The event will take place at The Lodge at Crandall Park, 120 Cider Mill Road, Tolland, CT 06084. Chairman Kelly and Commissioner Todd supported the decision for the commission to take part in the event since the opportunity would give Ellington businesses an opportunity to connect with the commission and other local businesses.

The International Economic Development Council will be holding their annual Economic Development Week during the first week of May. Ms. Houlihan said the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce might change the date of the business showcase to fall during the Economic Development Week so that the two events coincide with one another. If the event is held on April 5th, then the commission would have the opportunity to advertise the business showcase in two town newsletters, or three if it is held during the

first week of May. The commission also can send out direct mail, email advertisements and social media posts for this event.

2. Report: Agricultural Initiatives

There is nothing new to report.

3. Report: Connecticut Economic Development Association Best Practices

The Connecticut Economic Development Association has changed the parameters for getting the Best Practices Award. The commission will review the change in the parameters at the February meeting.

4. Report: Tax Incentive/Abatement Programs

Chairman Kelly reported that Desco Professional Builders, Inc. is still considering an expansion. Vice Chairman Resutek asked about changes to Juliano's Pools. Chairman Kelly stated that the Vernon location will become a retail location while the Ellington location will store equipment, machines, and supplies. They will also be expanding with more storage and parking areas at the Ellington location.

5. Report: Current Economic Activity

There is nothing new to report.

**IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

1. Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget & Expenditures update.

Chairman Kelly indicated that next year's budget proposal will be adjusted to increase the advertising budget, which will be important for advertising for the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce business showcase and the Shop Ellington event. Ms. Houlihan informed the commission that the part-time budget should be increased from \$1,300 to \$1,600 and that the advertising budget be increased from \$400 to \$1,000. To increase the budget for part-time work and advertising, the budget for contracted services will be reduced from \$2,800 to \$1,000. With these changes, Ms. Houlihan informed the commission that the budget would be reduced to \$4,450.

The budget will be revised and reviewed again at the February meeting.

2. Approval of the December 15, 2021 regular meeting minutes.

**MOVED (SMITH) SECONDED (PLATT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 15, 2021 MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.**

3. Election of Officers.

***Chairman Position:***

**MOVED (TODD) SECONDED (RESUTEK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER (KELLY) FOR CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR 2022.**

**COMMISSIONER (KELLY) ACCEPTED THE NOMINATION.  
HEARING NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS, NOMINATIONS WERE CLOSED.**

**MOVED (TODD) SECONDED (RESUTEK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT COMMISSIONER (KELLY) FOR CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR 2022.**

***Vice-Chairman Position:***

**MOVED (KELLY) SECONDED (TODD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER (RESUTEK) FOR VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR 2022.**

**COMMISSIONER (RESUTEK) ACCEPTED THE NOMINATION.  
HEARING NO FURTHER NOMINATIONS, NOMINATIONS WERE CLOSED.**

**MOVED (KELLY) SECONDED (TODD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT COMMISSIONER (RESUTEK) FOR VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR 2022.**

4. Correspondence:

- a. Goman + York Advisory Services, Connecticut's Shifting Demographics, The Dynamics of Demographics and Economic Development, dated December 9, 2021.

Ms. Houlihan and Mr. Kelly presented a report from Goman + York Advisory Services on the changing demographics in the State of Connecticut. The report does not specifically address changes to demographics in Ellington. The report will be reviewed again at the February meeting.

**V. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOVED (SMITH) SECONDED (PLATT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING AT 7:28 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Nathaniel Trask, Recording Clerk