

Chester Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting, March 9, 2015
Page 1 of 2

1. Call to Order

The Chester Economic Development Commission held its regular meeting on Monday, March 9, 2015, at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, Connecticut. Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM.

2. Roll Call

Those in attendance were Susan Wright, Felise Cressman and Pat Bandzes. First Selectman Meehan was also present.

3. Audience of Citizens-none.

4. Discussion of 2015 Program Initiatives

- Bridge Construction updates:
 - Information flow
 - DEEP Permit Update
 - Merchants
 - Winter Carnivale

First Selectman Meehan reported there are two divisions involved in the Main Street Bridge Replacement. Both divisions, Office of Long Island Sound Programs and Flood Control Division have issued a Notice of Waiver and will not hold a public hearing unless a petition is received requesting one. He further noted the only group that expressed comments on the bridge replacement was the Chester Harbor Management Commission. They had concerns regarding pigeons roosting on the columns underneath the bridge.

It is anticipated the bids will be advertised by the end of April. Coordination is being wrapped up with all the utilities involved. Meehan also noted he is in the process of signing agreements to get reimbursed for design work done by the Town Engineer regarding manholes, sewer lines and relocation of laterals. They are still on track for utility relocation work to start in the Fall, with a January start date. Meehan indicated the Town is currently dealing with the Newington D.O.T. office for design work, but once the project starts, it will be dealing with Norwich District 2. Day to day traffic management will come out of District 2.

It was decided the merchants should be notified once the Town has a confirmed start date. Meehan noted D.O.T. is still working with a few property owners to settle rights-of-way issues and get easements.

**Chester Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting, March 9, 2015
Page 2 of 2**

First Selectman Meehan noted they have settled on a staging area at the Chester Fair Grounds.

Felise Cressman noted there were no further specific updates on the merchants. The new radio station will be up and running the first week of April. The Winter Carnivale is now a Spring Carnivale scheduled for April 12th.

- **Chester Wayfinding Signage Update**

Wayfinding Signage was briefly reviewed. It was noted one company has submitted a quote for \$12,000 but that was only for one sign. Waiting for quote from second company to see if its in the same price range. Chairman Wright noted \$12,000 is way over the Town's price range. There was brief discussion regarding have breakaways. Wright noted she has looked at sign information from across the Country and most have breakaways. First Selectman Meehan noted he will call D.O.T. District 2 and ask if a breakaway base is required.

- **New Business**

Pat Bandzes asked if everyone saw that Deep River is considering putting in gas lines.

First Selectman Meehan noted 2 projects that are still on the horizon are the sewer extension by Aaron Manor and a possible water line up to Inspiration Lane.

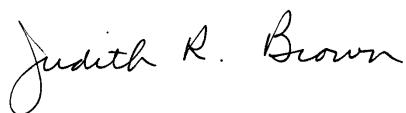
5. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Bandzes, second by Cressman, to approve January 12, 2015 Minutes with one typographic correction, change "Bendzes" to "Bandzes". Unanimously Approved.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary