

**Minutes of the monthly meeting of the
ECONOMIC RECOVERY COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, November 23, 2021 7:00 p.m., via GoToMeeting

In attendance: J. Mancini, J. Duffield, G. Cook, L. Hogarty, K. Emerson, D. Bauer, S. O'Brien; N. Gorski *ex officio*; R. Regolo guests

Mancini called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and confirmed all persons in attendance.

Review and approval of meeting minutes from October 26, 2021. A motion was made by Cook to accept the meeting minutes of the October 26, 2021 Economic Recovery Committee Meeting. The motion as seconded by Hogarty. Mancini, Cook, Hogarty, Emerson, Bauer, and O'Brien approved the motion. Duffield abstained. Motion passed.

Financial Report – Accounting of Funds. Regolo provided an accounting of funds and interest earned to date. Original balance was \$941,714.76, which has earned \$243.82 in interest to date.

Discussion of funds use and category refinement. Mancini recapped the Committees discussion from October to break the categories of potential spending into tranches and then reviewed the categories that were selected by each member to help prepare the committee for the upcoming Town Hall Meeting.

Duffield was added to government services and investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure. Bauer was added to government services.

Hogarty commented that the American Rescue Plan: Example of Municipal Projects document that Gorski had shared and Mancini disseminated to the Committee was very helpful in providing examples of how we could spend money from the ARRA. Gorski indicated that she will be at a conference next week and will inquire about any additional resources that may be helpful to us.

Old Business

- 1. Finalize Plans for ERP Town Hall Meeting.** Mancini announced that he secured the Killingworth volunteer firehouse on December 15, 2021 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Hogarty commented that she would like to push back the Town Hall to January. Cook supports that decision. Emerson indicated that the Town Hall should move forward in December so we can let the town know about the Committee and that the funding exists. Bauer agrees with Emerson, as we should be making this more visible to the town and discuss our roadmap with the town.

Mancini indicated that we need to disseminate the letter to the community immediately to establish the transparent communication with the town. He is not opposed to a December Town Hall but realizes that the holiday season may impact our turnout. Hogarty agreed that we should get the letter out to help people start thinking about this and suggested we have it included in the Krier, which has a December 10, 2021 submission deadline. Cook agreed that the letter would help people begin thinking about the opportunity this money provides to the town, and then after the holiday season we could host the Town Hall.

Mancini asked Bauer if it would be possible to get a new date for a Town Hall in January rather than December. Committee discussed various dates and it was confirmed that January 19, 2022 was available and that we would move forward with holding a Town Hall at the Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company on that date at 7:00 p.m. Emerson requested that a remote forum be available in the event of bad weather. Mancini will pursue alternate meeting forums to accommodate inclement weather.

Gorski will add the Town Hall meeting to the town calendar.

- 2. Finalize Committee email address for public comment.** Mancini announced that the town provided us with a town email: economicrecovery@townofkillingworth.com. Mancini advised that he felt that the officers of the Committee should have access to the information and together the officers will find a way to present the information to the Committee at monthly meetings so we can discuss the information received.

Regolo advised that we must not delete any emails from the account. All in attendance agreed to that.

O'Brien suggested that we create an auto reply to set up on the email so that when an individual emails our account they receive an immediate response informing them that we will be reviewing their email as a Committee and will respond at a later date, if appropriate. All in attendance agreed this would be appropriate to set up.

O'Brien confirmed that now that we have the email established, we will move forward with publishing the letter as previously voted on by the Committee. The letter will be sent to Karen Milano for publication in the Krier, as well as to Gorski for dissemination through the town email. Gorski will also look into how this letter could be placed on the landing page of the town website to ensure more residents are able to view the information.

New Business.

Mancini requested that the resources provided by Gorski from the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, which was shared with the Committee now be placed on the Committee's town website. All in attendance were in agreement.

Emerson inquired whether the use of funding available for loss revenue would fall under the government services section. Mancini confirmed that government services would incorporate the using of funds for loss of revenue. Capital improvements would also be part of that category.

Mancini announced that in advance of the Town Hall Meeting, he will prepare a PowerPoint presentation to serve as a guide for the Town Hall, which we can build off of and that can serve to provide substantive knowledge and information to the town while keeping the Committee on task that night.

Cook stressed that when considering spending, we should focus on "one-shot expenditures" rather than things that will leave the town with reoccurring costs.

Hogarty inquired as to the meeting schedule for the remainder of the 2021 year. Mancini confirmed that per the schedule set by Cathy Iino, we would be meeting on December 28, 2021. Gorski advised that for

the 2022 year, O'Brien should make a meeting schedule to be shared and voted on by the Committee at the December meeting.

Adjournment. Hogarty moved to adjourn the meeting. Cook seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously as presented. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara O'Brien