

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON, CT**  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**  
**Minutes May 10, 2023**  
**Town Council Chambers**

**Present**

Bill Wadsworth  
 Daniel Kleinman  
 Bob Reeve  
 Tommy Hyde  
 Pete Ramchandani  
 Warren Hua  
 Ed Giannaros

**Staff**

Rose Ponte

**A. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Wadsworth at 5:30 pm.

**B. Public Comment**

None noted

**C. Reading of the Minutes**

- a. A motion was made and seconded (Reeve /Ramchandani) to accept the March 8, 2023 minutes. **Motion carried.**

**D. Economic Developers Report**

Rose reviewed the March and April report with Commissioners and the following items were discussed:

- a. **The Spring Business Breakfast** will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup>, Nathan Grube, Tournament Director for the Travelers Championship, will discuss the economic benefits of the Tournament. Northeast Surety will receive an anniversary proclamation. Commissioners discussed whether we should introduce new businesses to the attendees at the breakfast, as had been done a few years ago. The consensus reached was to spotlight a business that was doing something innovative or beneficial for the Farmington market.
- b. **Cultural District Update** Rose connected with Amanda Roy from the Greater Hartford Arts Council. The next step in the process is to host a community meeting, followed by a meeting with the Town Council to obtain a resolution that allows the town to apply to DECD. Amanda Roy offered to present at the community meeting. Rose will work with Amanda to schedule the community meeting in June.
- c. **Banners and Flowers:** This past spring, one of the Hill-stead Museum's Gala volunteers reached out to Rose interested in installing banners on the DiPietro Bridge. The banners would promote the Museum's upcoming Gala. Rose collaborated with the planning department and while most of the Town's concerns were addressed, approval for the banners could not be given because a policy governing banners does not exist. Rose is researching how other towns manage event banners and perhaps this could be something that the proposed Cultural District's advisory committee could tackle.

**E. Town Council Liaison Report**

Councilman Giannaros reported that the Town Council budget was approved. The mill rate was set at 24.2. The budget contained a 0% expenditure increase on the town side, and a 2.0% increase on the education side, on the revenue side, the fund balance increased by \$1.2 M. Councilman Giannaros also reported that the Town received a clean audit.

**F. New Business - None noted.****G. Adjournment**

- a. A motion was made and seconded (Kleinman /Reeve) to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 PM. **Motion Carried.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
**Rose Ponte Economic Development Director**  
**CC: Economic Development Commissioners**