

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES - September 27, 1993

Present:

S. Shapiro
W. Corvo
G. Souto

Absent:

N. Conaway-Raczka
E. Pattavina

Staff:

W. Kuehn
L. Ozga
C. Wilcox

Also Present:

E. Roberts
S. Libby
W. Daley, Courant
Press Reporter
G. Rustek
H. Rose

Chairman S. Shapiro opened the meeting at 7:06 pm in room B20 of the Municipal Building; and asked for comments from the public during the Public Session.

S. Libby asked what had happened to the Belair "Final Report", what the \$45,000 was for, and what was the Committee's explanation. Chairman S. Shapiro noted that Mr. Belair was not obligated to give a report; but that one may be forthcoming anyway; and the committee did not wish to debate this issue. Mr. Libby reported he had a meeting the next day in Hartford on executive sessions which he described as a "corrupt, criminal way of conduct", and he was protesting the use of executive sessions in conjunction with REINVEST loans.

E. Roberts addressed the committee on the subject of the disposition of the Danforth Pewter Shop, and indicated he felt it would be inappropriate to dispose of it without some compensation. He felt it should be offered to a non-profit who would pay for the expenses of the building. He also would like to see the "Belair Report".

Minutes: Upon a motion by W. Corvo, seconded by G. Souto, the minutes of the August 23, 1993 meeting were approved unanimously.

Staff Reports:

Danforth Pewter Shop: C. Wilcox reported that the historic easement, as drafted by the City Attorney with the help of Ann Street of the Greater Middletown Preservation Trust was in the packet, and had been approved by the Preservation Board which would be the holder of the Easement. It would then go to the Council for approval, and be filed on the land records, before any disposition of the building took place.

Main Street Planters: L. Ozga reported that the Middletown Garden Club would decorate the Main Street planters again this year for the holidays. They would use the Chamber crew to cut the greens and \$800 worth of shrubs will be planted.

Downtown Manager: W. Kuehn reported that the Advisory Board had met three times and that the deadline for applications was October 15. The Board was interested in hearing from P&Z, the CBB, Redevelopment and the GMPT in order to draft guidelines. They will act as a policy making board for year #1; but after that, they will be on their own as a separate Downtown District.

W. Kuehn further reported that the Green street sidewalks were done; that Park and Rec will do the woodchips in the playground this week or next; and that acceptance of both should be on the October Council agenda. Also, starting next week, the office will have an intern from Wesleyan; and that the office has a booth at EXPO to promote Middletown Economic Development. He asked if any of the committee wished to help staff the booth.

REINVEST Loan Applications: At 7:23 p.m., upon a motion by W. Corvo, seconded by G. Souto, it was voted unanimously to go into executive session to discuss the REINVEST Loan applications of Santa Maria Bakery and Cream & Sugar: World Coffee pursuant to CGS section 1-18a(e)(5) which protects information protected under Connecticut General Statutes section 1-19(b)(5) from disclosure.

Upon a motion by W. Corvo, seconded by G. Souto the Economic Development Committee came out of executive session at 8:02 pm. No votes were taken during the executive session.

A motion was made by W. Corvo, seconded by G. Souto and voted unanimously to recommend approval of the REINVEST application of Santa Maria Bakery to the Common Council for their meeting of October 4, 1993.

A motion by W. Corvo, seconded by G. Souto was passed unanimously to waive a guideline which would allow H. Rose to use the REINVEST loan for equipment, because Midfield Corp will be providing all the tenant fit-out.

Upon a motion by W. Corvo, seconded by G. Souto, it was voted unanimously to recommend approval of the REINVEST application of H. Rose for Cream & Sugar: World Coffee to the Common Council at their meeting of Oct. 4.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Cynthia G. Wilcox

CGW/lmk

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