

**Mayor  
Michael Pavia**



**CITY OF STAMFORD**

**Economic Development Commission Board  
888 Washington Boulevard  
Stamford, Connecticut 06901**

**Joel Paul Selden  
Michael S. Pansini  
Barry Haines  
Denis Patterson  
Fran Pastore**

**Phone: 203-977-5089  
Fax: 203-977-5845**

**MINUTES  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
MEETING OF: Tuesday, December 8, 2009**

**DRAFT**

**TIME:** 8:30 am  
**PLACE:** Government Center  
Mayor's Conference Room 10<sup>th</sup> Floor

**ATTENDEES:**

**Economic Development Commission**

Joel Selden, Chairman  
Mike Pansini, Vice Chairman  
Denis Patterson  
Barry Haines  
Fran Pastore

**Economic Development Staff**

Mike Freimuth  
Lenora Cavaliero

**City of Stamford**

Mayor Michael Pavia

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The meeting was called to order at 8:45 a.m.

**Minutes:**

Denis Patterson made motion to accept the minutes of October 20, 2009 and Mike Pansini seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**Review of Economic Reports:**

Mike Freimuth distributed reports from the Connecticut Center Economic Analysis (CCEA), the Connecticut General Assembly and US News and World Report. The Commissioners had an opportunity to review and discuss. The reports identified what they viewed as the strongest economic areas in the country noting that Fairfield County is rated among the highest in wealth.

Joel Selden reported that over 50,000 jobs have been lost over the last 15 years in Connecticut, and that there were serious issues raised in the UConn and General Assembly reports as to the effectiveness of economic public policy in Connecticut.

9:10 a.m. Mayor Pavia joined the meeting. Mike Freimuth gave an update on Reinventing Stamford and brought the Mayor up to speed with projects reviewed by the EDC such as energy and transportation.

The Commissioner's expressed their desire to work with the new Administration in whatever capacity as necessary to move forward with projects and developments in Stamford.

The Mayor was receptive to the current projects but noted that he is strongly engaged in a driving force to encourage the development of small businesses and would like the Commissioners to make this the focus of their priorities; he wants Stamford to be known as a small business friendly place, since economic development is a vital interest to everyone.

To begin with, it would be helpful if the EDC evaluated internal review processes in an effort to expedite the requirements in a realistic and timely manner and offering responsive and helpful direction for the small business owners in acquiring permits and public assistance.

The city departments reviewing small businesses, issues include: Land Use, Building, Zoning, Health, and Environmental.

Mike Freimuth will check with ICMA for Best Practices and the Commissioners will do some research on other cities and their methods to provide services to small businesses in a timely manner.

Mike Pansini, Vice Chairman suggested that each department have a one page guideline available to eliminate delays and to identify a "step by step process" for permits.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Next meeting:

Tuesday, January 12, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. in the Mayor's Conference room



Respectively submitted,  
Lenora Cavaliero  
Office of Economic Development Staff

*Please note: This is a draft of Dec. 8, 2009 minutes to be adopted at the next regular scheduled meeting of Jan. 12, 2010*