

Economic Development Committee  
Meeting Minutes – September 16, 2024

Attendees: Sue Clary      John Bardwell      Bob Berger  
Chuck Barton (Washington/Warren County Industrial Development Authority)

1. Sue on ongoing initiatives

- i. **Linke Properties** –The meeting with Bob Henke, the County Attorney and the County Treasurer to discuss pre- and post-auction options will be scheduled after the County Budget cycle has been completed. .
- ii. **Master Comprehensive Plan** - Sue mentioned this project will now launch in October. Larry has obtained a list of past participants from previous MCP's and will circulate to the other committee members to start to address the Salem representation on the project.
- iii. **HHH** – Planned open remains targeted for 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2025.

2. Project Updates

1. Georgi – Larry for Brenda
  - i. Sotheby's new estimates and Invoice have been developed, and is awaiting a signature from Sue to release the new estimates.
  - ii. Legal work on the Charter and 501C3 is continuing. A question regarding needed number of Charter members has been identified and passed to the Lawyers for clarification. It involves the definition of the Georgi as it will not own the paintings or the gems.
  - iii. Event planning at the Georgi is continuing. Fall Into Shushan has been cancelled for this year,
  - iv. The current Georgi laptop still needs to be issued to Sandi.
  - v. A meeting to assess the extent of mold at the Georgi is being scheduled.
  - vi. Repairs estimates for the roof (@\$8,000) was presented to the Town Board for approval which was granted. Work is targeted to start in October.
  - vii. Larry is developed and submitted a \$29,000 grant for ADA work to the Charles Wood Foundation on 8/29/2024.
2. Sewer – Kay
  - i. No information was provided.
3. Climate Smart – Sue
  - i. Salem has received a \$10,000 grant for Climate Smart/Clean Energy projects already completed. The Town Board has agreed to put this towards the Georgi HVAC costs.

- ii. Work is continuing to identify additional work already completed that qualifies for additional grants.
  - iii. On August, 30 John Bardwell, along with Sue and Tom Clary met with Mario Stagliano, Managing Partner of Arway. Arway is a linen rental company out of Philadelphia PA looking to possibly relocate its linen and uniform cleaning business to Salem. They are particularly interested in becoming carbon neutral, so 3 potential Solar Farm locations were shown and were informed of Salem's highlights. Mario asked questions regarding the sites, along with taking photo's, and said he would update Ridgeway Infrastructure Partners (owners of Arway) and get back to Sue and John regarding any future interest.
  - iv. John and Sue are reviewing potential sites for Solar. A potential EDC trip to meet with the owner of the Easton Solar Farm (Eddie Johnston) is being discussed.
4. Economic Development - Larry
- i. Linke properties – See above.
  - ii. Salem Food Store – Larry is working to see if a presentation to the Cambridge Co-Op Board can be scheduled to identify any on-going interest.
  - iii. YMCA – YMCA has not provided any information . Larry will continue to follow up to obtain this information.
  - iv. A meeting with a potential business to re-locate to Salem was held on Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - v. Chuck Barton from WWIDA attended to discuss potential grant opportunities for Solar
  - vi. Larry met with Milissa Carll from the Library to discuss the EDC and her priorities.
  - vii. Town Board Member Meetings – No progress has been made in scheduling talks with Howard and Brenda.
5. Next Steps
- i. Continue to schedule meetings with other groups
    - 1. Library
    - 2. Firehouses/Rescue Squad
    - 3. Real Estate companies (in progress)
    - 4. Salem School
    - 5. Town Board Members

**Next Meeting: October 21, 2024 9:00 a.m. at Salem Town Hall**