

Town of Waterboro

Economic Development Committee

MINUTES

October 7, 2015 – 1:00 PM – Selectmen’s Meeting Room

Attendees: Leo Binette, Don Holden, Lisa Hughes, Lauri Warchol, Cory Woodsome, Lisa Crocker, James Southworth, Chuck Morgan, Shawn Shoemaker

Guest Speaker: Thomas Bartell

Absent: Dennis Abbott & Gary Lamb

Meeting Called to order at 1:07pm by Chairman Leo Binette.

Agenda was reviewed and accepted by Don Holden, seconded by Cory Woodsome. All voted in favor.

Minutes for September 2, 2015 was reviewed and accepted by James Southworth, seconded by Lisa Crocker. All voted in favor

Correspondence: Dennis Abbott & Gary Lamb unable to attend due to work commitments.

Old Business:

- Tabled to November 4, 2015 meeting due to invited speaker.

New Business:

Thomas Bartell, the Windham Economic Development Director was invited to speak to the committee on the subject of the new hotel recently opened in Windham. Tom discussed the demographic of Windham, its population of 17,000 residents and a strong tourist boost in the lake region. Tom stated the hotel took seven years from initial application to completion. It was a long process for the developer to find the right operator and financing.

The Town of Windham paid for a retail marketing analysis at a cost of \$30K in 2012. This study allowed current businesses to tap into this information for future decisions on growth within their businesses or possible creation of new businesses. The study was conducted by “The Retail Coach”.

Tom’s best suggestion was to make your community a “place to make money”. To make it so that regulations and local government works “for” its businesses, not against them.

Adjournment at 3:30pm