

**Simsbury Business Development Committee
TOWN OF SIMSBURY
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 6, 2019 at 8:30AM
Town Hall – Main Meeting Room
933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, Connecticut**

PRESENT: Dave Ryan; Bill Ethier; Robert Pomeroy (by phone); Eric Wellman; Peter Van Loon; Maria Capriola, Town Manager

ABSENT: none

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Glidden, Director of Planning; David Gardner, Assessor; Melissa Appleby, Deputy Town Manager; Sarah Nielsen, Executive Director, Simsbury Main Street Partnership Inc; Bob Decrescenzo, Town Attorney; Representatives from Ensign-Bickford Aerospace & Defense: Chad Thompson, Brendan Walsh, Todd Siedsma, Dave Kametz.

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Capriola called the meeting to order at 8:33 AM

1) BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE APPLICATION, ENSIGN-BICKFORD AEROSPACE & DEFENSE

Ms. Capriola asked D. Gardner to review the revised staff report. Mr. Gardner discussed the various abatement scenarios outlined in the staff report along with the updated personal property information provided by the applicant.

Ms. Capriola inquired if members had any comments/concerns based on the updated information.

Mr. Wellman asked whether the 140 jobs created were for just the first phase. Chad Thompson clarified that the employment number only applies to the first phase. Mr. Thompson noted that the new numbers provided for personal property are conservative.

Mr. Wellman noted that his stance on abatement for this particular request has changed from the last meeting and he felt a more aggressive package could be appropriate.

Mr. Ethier thanked staff for providing the revised information. He noted the range of 33% to 72% of the different options.

Mr. Ryan commented that he preferred the option prepared by Mr. Pomeroy.

Mr. Van Loon felt that more aggressive approach is needed for this request.

Mr. Ethier stated it appeared scenario H is what EBAD was requesting. Mr. Thompson confirmed that this scenario is most closely aligned with their request. Mr. Ethier supported granting scenario H.

Mr. Wellman stated that he supported scenario H as well.

Mr. Ryan commented on how there is approximately a \$30,000.00 difference between scenario H.

Mr. Pomeroy noted that scenario H was consistent with the information requested. He stated that it sounded like a consensus was reached on this based on the comments from other members.

MOTION: Mr. Van Loon made a motion to recommend scenario H as the abatement package to the Board of Selectmen. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ethier.

Mr. Ryan asked the applicant whether this would help their issues. Mr. Thompson acknowledged it should.

Mr. Pomeroy asked whether the motion included any comments on milestones or required employment numbers. Ms. Capriola noted that measurements such as jobs created or personal property values would be part of a legal agreement that is executed by the Town Manager.

Mr. Ethier noted that these milestones sound like they are established during the administrative process.

B. Decrescenzo noted that falling short of the established goals would be considered defaulting of the agreement.

Mr. Ryan noted that the personal property tax numbers associated with scenario H are important. He suggested that motion be amended to include language that the abatement would be subject to the normal conditions and that it would only apply to the new growth.

Motion: Mr. Van Loon amended his motion that the Committee recommend scenario H to the Board of Selectmen as the abatement package for EBAD subject to the normal conditions. The abatement would only apply to the new growth. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ethier. The motion passed 4-1 with Mr. Pomeroy opposing.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM April 29, 2019

MOTION: Mr. Ryan made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Ethier seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Mr. Ryan made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 AM. Mr. Van Loon seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Submitted by,

Michael Glidden CFM CZEO
Director of Planning and Community Development