

**EDC RETENTION & INCENTIVES COMMITTEE**  
**SPECIAL Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, August 27, 2020, 12:00 p.m.**

The Retention & Incentives Committee special meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Chair Fappiano. Committee members Fappiano, Bracale and Preneta were present, as well as staff member Ryan, Lauren Takoris from the Record-Journal and Amy Fortin.

1. Discussion and possible action on January 23, 2020 special meeting minutes – Minutes were unanimously approved as presented.
2. Discussion re: present incentive programs – Incentive programs due to expire at the end of September were discussed. Driven by a high degree of business uncertainty, it was felt best to request renewal of the present incentive programs even through their effectiveness is questionable. The basis for the decision was to have some incentive programs in place to act as a natural stepping-off point in the event an opportunity arises.
3. Discussion re: current business landscape – Staff reported that although the dominant dialog revolves around business distress, there are those businesses that are doing extremely well in this current climate. The Economic Development Office is currently working on several prospective opportunities that represent businesses relocating to our community.
4. Report re: lower Center Street ownership changes – Staff discussed the ownership change of the site bordered by Quinipiac Street and South Colony Street. New ownership has plans to improve the plaza and a long-term vacancy in the plaza will be filled by a bakery.
5. Report re: 80 Valley Street – This site is currently owned and formerly tenanted by Allegheny Ludlum Steel. However, Allegheny has not expressed any interest in selling the property, much to our disappointment.
6. Discussion re: exit interview program – The Committee would like to restart the exit interview program and has asked staff to have call lists compiled. This led to a discussion regarding fall, company visits which the Committee has decided to cancel; they will revisit the program in the spring.
7. Next meeting – October 29 @ 9:00 a.m.

By unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

c: Town Clerk  
Website