

**TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Wednesday, January 20, 2016**

The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Canton was held on Wednesday, January 20, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 4 Market Street, Collinsville, CT. David Leff, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Town Clerk, Linda Smith, read the call of the meeting and the return of notice.

In accordance with the Town Charter, no binding votes were taken.

Leslee Hill dedicated the FY2014-2015 to Mr. Emil Huyghebaert in recognition of his considerable public service and contributions to our Canton community. Emil was a part of the Canton Community for a wonderful 54 years before passing away in August of 2014. Emil was a member and usher of St. Patrick's Church in Collinsville, a volunteer at the Collinsville Historical Museum, a member of the Ethics Committee for the Town of Canton and worked countless hours at the polls during the elections. In addition to his contributions to the Town of Canton, Emil had a long dedication to the Boy Scouts of America and for the past 30+ years, Collinsville was very fortunate to have had him as Scoutmaster of Troop 77. Members of Troop 77 presented the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Moderator then yielded the floor to EDA Chairman Bob Bessel to:

HOLD A DISCUSSION on the marketing analysis and branding plan developed by the Town of Canton's Economic Development Agency for the Town of Canton.

Mr. Bessel presented a power point presentation outlining the reasons for a market study, what was observed during the study, what our opportunities are and the tools we can use to 'brand' the Town. His presentation is attached.

Questions/Comments were made by:

David Kubas-82 East Hill Road
Norm Adams-18 Case Street
Ann Hunter-37 Andrew Drive
Gary Roman-Sweetheart Mountain
Lorinda Pane-Olson Road
Katherine Hooker-35 Maple Ave
Julius Fialkiewicz-11 East Hill Road

There being no further discussion, the Moderator then yielded the floor to Town Planner Neil Pade to:

HOLD A DISCUSSION on the process and possible benefits of creating a Tax Increment Financing Master Plan pursuant to Connecticut Public Act 15-57 for portions of Collinsville, including the Collins Axe Factory, in order to fund certain public improvements and promote economic development.

In a power point presentation, Mr. Pade described what a Tax Increment Financing plan was, its legislative creation, and the broad range of implementation possibilities for a municipality.

He described how a town would benefit from the increased assessed value of a TIF District and used the Collins Company site as an example. Next steps include hiring technical expertise and put a steering committee into place, holding public meetings & hearings, and getting approvals from town boards and commissions. His presentation is attached.

Questions/Comments were made by:

David Sinish-20 Dyer Avenue
Kathrine Hooker-35 Maple Ave
Richard Barlow-321 Cherry Brook Road
Norm Adams-18 Case Street
Jim Keane-Freedom Drive
Larry Minichiello-35 Maple Ave
Bob Bessel-4 South Street
Alan Weiner-9 High Street
Ken Humphrey-250 East Hill Road
Bill Volovski-47 Gildersleeve Ave
Tom Sevigny-Gracey Road
Julie Rush-40 Wilders Pass
Jonathan Thiesse-Wright Road
Kim Hathaway-Trailsend Drive

Richard Barlow made a motion for a non-binding, advisory vote of the Town Meeting for the purposes of supporting the Town's efforts to investigate Tax Incentive Financing for the Collins Company Factory.

Seconded by David Sinish.

Additional Comments were made by:

Ron Larson-4 Stonemeadow Lane
Shawn Cole-timber Lane

There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for a voice vote of the Motion on the table. The Motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

There being no further business before the Annual Town Meeting, Leslee Hill made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Tom Sevigny.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39pm

Linda Smith
Linda Smith, Town Clerk

Received for record 1/21/16

Linda Smith
Linda Smith, Town Clerk