



**NOTICE OF MEETING AT THE ELTON TAVERN
781 GEORGE WASHINGTON TURNPIKE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026
7:00PM**

MINUTES

Commissioners in Attendance: JP Parente, James Fisher, Gregg Pasternack, John (Jack) Deeb

Guests: Kristen Grindal-Keller, John Levine, Chris Ocheduszko

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM.
- II. Election of 2026 Officers
 - a. Chairman
 - i. JP Parente has been reelected to the position of Chairman.
 - b. Vice Chairman
 - i. John (Jack) Deeb has been elected to the position of Vice Chairman.
 - c. Secretary
 - i. Gregg Pasternak has been elected to the position of Secretary.
- III. Public Comment
 - a. Kristen Grindal-Keller
 - i. Grindal-Keller presented a new school organization "Project: Search" at Lewis Mills High School (LSM) that provides students with an opportunity to shadow individuals of different professions and trades across numerous sectors of retail, offices, trades, etc. It allows students to explore potential career paths that may interest them and help foster their passions for different areas in the workforce. She has expressed interest in expanding beyond the non-profit sector into the for-profit sector as the school district was informed by counsel that labor concerns should not be an issue.
 - b. Candidates
 - i. John Levine
 - 1. Levine expressed interest in one of our vacancies. Has multiple children in the school district, and his family has been happy to make Burlington their home. John works for Cintas in sales. He is very interested in improving quality of life in the town, and is looking to see what we can do to make our town the best it can be.
 - ii. Chris Ocheduszko
 - 1. Ocheduszko owns a construction/remodeling company and conducts a lot of business in town. He had a son come through Region 10 and wants to get more involved in the community and volunteer his time to the town. He expresses interest in making our town the best it can be.

- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Fisher made a motion. Pasternack seconded. Unanimously approved.
- V. Reports, & Updates
 - a. Grants & Funding
 - i. No new updates on grants and funding.
 - b. Business & Property Developments
 - i. Some businesses have expressed interest in town.
 - c. Burlington & Central CT Chambers of Commerce
 - i. No new business.
 - d. Northwest CT Economic Development Commission
 - i. No new business.
- VI. Old Business
 - a. Inaugural Sidewalk Stroll
 - i. The sidewalk stroll was a success. The commission talked about recommending moving the date of the stroll and drawing in more business engagement.
 - b. LFB.com Rules
 - i. Discussion tabled until February meeting.
 - c. EDC Proposed Budget
 - i. Discussion tabled until February meeting.
- VII. New Business
 - a. Vacancies & Candidates
 - i. Met candidates during public comment.
 - b. LSM Community Work Experience Internships (LSM CWEI)
 - i. Discussed during public comment. EDC supports the program unanimously
- VIII. Other Business
 - a. The commission will be looking into ways Burlington can sustain its charm while being pro-business.
- IX. Adjourn
 - a. Deeb made the motion to adjourn, Pasternack seconded. Adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Next Meeting: February 17, 2026

Respectfully submitted,
John (Jack) Deeb, Acting Secretary / Vice Chairman