

**Borough of West Reading**  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**July 8, 2024**

**Committee Members Present**

Philip Wert, Chair

Randall Miller, Borough Manager

Samantha Kaag

Heidi Reuter

Robin Horman

Aaron Gantz (arrived at 6:07 pm)

**Staff Present**

Stephanie Burkholder, Chad Moyer

**Visitors Present**

Dr. Angela Adler

**Call to Order**

Mr. Wert called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Approval of the Minutes**

**Motion** made by Ms. Reuter and seconded by Mrs. Horman to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2024. Motion carried.

**Residential Properties Update**

Mr. Wert didn't have anything to report.

**West Reading Commercial Properties Update**

- Berkshire Plaza – Warm Hearts Caregivers has just occupied one of the vacant units.
- 154 Franklin – S&L Mechanical had vacated the property. This is now occupied by a mobile welding service.
- 400 Penn – Winnie Mochi is open.
- 428 Penn – A Columbian restaurant will be opening soon.
- 430 Penn – This location has been occupied by Origin.
- 433 Penn – Schweitzer's Service Center, process is moving along.
- 450 Penn – Vivi Bubble Tea is now open.
- 520 Penn – Previously occupied by Origin. West Reading Posture and Mobility Studio will be going here.
- 600 Penn – Property was transferred, it's unknown as to the type of restaurant that will go here.
- 607 Penn – DeLune will be relocating from this location to 544 Penn.
- 609 Penn – Sugar Shack is open.
- 611 Penn – Haul House Records is open.
- 643 Penn – Tinsel and Twig will be going here which was previously occupied by Willow Creek.
- 720 Penn – Betsey's Boutique will be closing.
- 10 S. 5<sup>th</sup> – Space is currently available.
- 12 S. 5<sup>th</sup> – Atelier will be moving here.

**Strategic Planning Discussion**

- Wyomissing Report – Mr. Wert advised that there have been some renovations at the Inn at Reading. The Berkshire Mall had an issue with a sinkhole recently. Wawa has an interest in building at the former Mobil gas station at the corner on State Hill Road. Outback Steakhouse has moved from their former location and has relocated to Spring Twp. Primo Hoagies just opened. A widening project on State Hill Road is being planned which is to include round-a-bouts.
- Shopping Center Update – Mr. Wert didn't have anything to report.

**Strategic Planning Next Steps**

1. Design Standards – Mr. Wert advised that Derck and Edson is still working with the Planning Commission on designs.
2. BID Update – Mr. Wert didn't have anything to update.

**Old/New Business**

1. Railroad Bridge – Mr. Wert advised that the borough is still working with Norfolk Southern on the design for the bridge. According to Mr. Wert Norfolk Southern still doesn't know the details of what is being planned and they would like to get this finalized. Mr. Price wasn't present at the meeting and should have more information at the next meeting for further discussion.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Burkholder  
Administrative Clerk