

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
MINUTES**

MAY 4, 2016

PRESENT: Steve Langley (Chair), Charlie Tentas (Vice-Chair), Cheryl Anderson, Jo Ann Duffy (alternate), Cathy Whooten (alternate), Mark Lemay (BOS Rep) and Derek Horne, (EDC Coordinator).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 2, 2016 - Amendment, Page 1 of 17 under Springfest; change "should" to "showed" in 1st paragraph, 3rd sentence.

C. Tentas moved to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by D. Horne. Vote: 5-in favor, 0-opposed, 2-abstained. C. Whooten abstained, Cheryl abstained. Motion carried.

April 19, 2016 - **C. Tentas moved, seconded by C. Anderson to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: 6-in favor, 0-opposed, 1-abstained. C. Whooten abstained. Motion carried.**

MEMBERSHIP

Two regular seats are currently vacant. If anyone is interested, please provide a volunteer application and D. Horne will submit it to the Board of Selectmen. Voting for Chair and Vice-Chair would occur this evening. The terms run from 2016-2019. **C. Anderson moved, seconded by C. Tentas to recommend both Jo Ann and Cathy as regular board members to the Board of Selectmen. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.**

ELECTION OF CHAIR

C. Anderson moved to nominate C. Tentas for Chair. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

J. Duffy nominated A. Cadorette as Vice-Chair. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Goffstown Springfest Recap

Two questions were asked at the Springfest - "What does economic development mean to you" and "How would you market Goffstown". C. Tentas spoke with families who had just moved to Goffstown. They were enthused about the community and the schools. They liked the fact that they had moved out of Manchester. By having a minimal survey, people wanted to talk more. It was a very good day. C. Tentas recommended that the Council continue participating in this event.

Review of 2016 BOS Goals and Adoption of EDC Goals

Our charge this year was to complete the EDSat. We are now focused on the results, as well as the the development of an economic development plan for the Town. The EDC's goals were updated within the past few months. Selectman Lemay advised that the Board of Selectmen reviewed their list of goals from last year and updated it. They will try to maintain stability with the C.I.P. They have met with the department heads and evaluations have been completed. They are still in negotiations with the DPW. They have been working with GTV. The Board feels communication is very important. The annual All Boards Meeting is scheduled for 5/16/16 at 6:00 p.m. at the Institute of Politics. D. Horne stated that they have found applicants going through the development process who would run into road blocks because planning and zoning looks at uses on the large scale, where building and fire codes are

different. Applicants then ran into difficulty when there were deficiencies in the building, etc. The TRC process has been made available for potential business owners who are looking at a particular site. Staff will then provide them with advice before they begin their project. The BOS are looking at how effective is this program and whether the business community is taking advantage of it. S. Langley stated that this process targets businesses who have signed a lease in an existing building and they need to learn what steps are required before a certificate of occupancy can be issued. S. Langley stated that there may need to be additional publicity so that the business community is aware of this process. C. Tentas also suggested that the Town send a letter to the commercial landlords, so that they are aware of this process prior to leasing their properties. The Council members decided to change the meetings with the BOS from quarterly to semi-annually.

Review of EDSAT; Next Steps, Areas for Improvements and Recommendations

Page 27 of the report entitled, Goffstown, New Hampshire: A Look at Economic Development by Barry Bluestone, 2016 talks about *Things to Think About*. The current economic development plan is out of date and lacks an industrial attraction policy and a sense of direction for its marketing efforts. It was recommended that the Town expedite review and permitting approvals, and provide a handbook, flow chart, and checklist of the process. The Town has many good things, such as good traffic management and attractive rent prices. Work is needed to assist in marketing the community and targeting specific industries. Conducting a feasibility study, with input from various stake holders to analyze the investment opportunities in addressing the town's limited infrastructure capacities for natural gas, water supply public sewer and wastewater treatment.

OTHER BUSINESS AND UPCOMING MEETINGS

Board of Selectmen's Annual All Board's Meeting, Monday, 5/16/16, 6:00 p.m., NH Institute of Politics at Saint Anselm College

C. Tentas will attend the All Board's Meeting.

NH Economic Review, Division of Economic Development

D. Horne distributed pages highlighting the types of key industries the State is targeting.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

D. Horne also distributed information on the Target Industry and Regional Cluster Analysis.

C. Tentas congratulated Goffstown High School for ranking #4 as Best Schools in New Hampshire by the U.S. News and World Report. C. Tentas suggested a sign be raised or perhaps a banner.

Exit 6 and 7 committee is meeting on May 18 at 1 p.m. at Manchester Community College. This will be the third meeting. They are looking at funding, environmental issues, etc.

ADJOURNMENT

C. Anderson moved, seconded by C. Tentas to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Ann Duffy

The EDC approved the minutes at their 6/1/16 meeting with the following changes:

- (pg. 1, last paragraph, 1st sentence) – Change sentence to read, “Our **changed charge** this year was to complete the EDSat, ~~which is~~ **We are** now focused on the results, as well as the **the** development of an economic development plan for the Town.

- (pg. 1, last paragraph, last sentence) – Change sentence to read, “D. Horne stated that they have found applicants going through the development process **they who** would run into road blocks because planning and zoning...”
- (pg. 2, 2nd paragraph, 2nd sentence) – Change sentence to read, “The current economic development plan is out of date and lacks **and an** industrial attraction policy...”
- (pg. 2, 2nd paragraph, 4th sentence) – Change sentence to read, “The Town has many good things, such as good traffic management, **and** attractive rent prices.