



City of Rochester, New Hampshire
Economic Development Department
33 Wakefield Street, Rochester, NH 03867
(603) 335-7522, www.RochesterEDC.com

Rochester Economic Development Commission
Minutes – August 25, 2020
Rochester City Hall Annex – Online Teams Meeting
33 Wakefield Street, Rochester, NH

Members Present Remotely: Jonathan Shapleigh, Janet Davis, Mark Hourihane, Kristen Bournival, Paul Giuliano, Kris Ebbeson, Whitney Bolton , Marsha Miller

Members Absent Remotely: Troy Dillow

Others Present: Mike Scala, Jenn Marsh, Julia Libby

- A. B and C: Chairperson Shapleigh read the preamble and called the meeting to order at 8:05.
- D. Roll Call attendance was taken.

Meeting Agenda

- A. Roll Call attendance was taken as part D of the preamble.
- B. Marsha made a motion to approve the May minutes as presented. Janet seconded the motion. Roll call was taken, all in favor.
- C. Mike noticed the REDC didn't have a logo so he asked Julia to create one. She showed the members two different logos and the members agreed they would like to see the one below again with adjusted fonts. Julia will send out to the committee before the September meeting.



- D. Julia sent out the follow up letters to the businesses that participated in the business retention program and has not received any feedback or questions. The committee discussed business needs during COVID.
- E. Mike gave an update on the LDI project that is scheduled to build a building on Airport



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Drive. The loan closed on July 30th between LDI and the REDC/City. The land sale also took place this summer. The contractor has already begun submitting invoices that will go to LDI for review, the REDC for review and then Finance for final review and release of funds. There should be a groundbreaking in September.

Mike noted that the finance department will be keeping a binder with project details and they noticed there was no official vote in the REDC public minutes in support of the LDI project.

Jonathan noted that the committee has been discussing this project for nearly a year and have been receiving updates monthly from Mike Scala. He noted the nonpublic session on September 25, 2019 showed unanimous support for the project however, no actual vote was taken.

Mark made a motion that the REDC vote in support of the REDC act the lender of the finance authority on the LDI project which is moving from Portsmouth to Rochester. The committee approves and gives authorization to the Chair of the REDC to review and sign off on any disbursements for this project. Marsha seconded the motion, no discussion. All in favor via roll call.

Prep Partners closed on the 10 +/- acre lot in the GSBP. They are currently working on their city approvals and financing. The City Council approved the use of TIF funds for the extension of the water/sewer lines to the Prep Partners land. Staff is working with the Pease Development Authority (PDA) and Prep Partners to gain an easement through PDA for connections which will reduce costs for all parties.

The City purchased the Hoffman building currently have a market study underway which will help give an overview of possible uses of the building/property.

The Scenic and Salinger buildings have been purchased by Chinburg Properties. City Council approved the RSA 79E for 7 years and have already signed the covenant. Chinburg Properties will begin work on the building this summer. Jenn gave an update on other RSA 79E's that have been approved in the past few years.

- F. Jenn and Mike are currently working on phase 2 of wayfinding and hope to have the signs approved and in the ground this fall. Phase 2 plans are to install welcome to Rochester signs on the major arteries into the city and also replace/add pedestrian and vehicular wayfinding around the downtown area. Phase 3 will hopefully happen in the spring of 2021.
- G. Jonathan noted the committee members are all in place and suggested he and Mike work on setting up the first meeting. At the meeting they can finalize the process and set up a template to use.



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H. Adjourn: Paul made a motion to adjourn at 9:17. Mark seconded the motion. Roll call was taken, all in favor.

Next Meeting is scheduled for September 22nd at 8:00 am. Location to be determined.