

Rochester Economic Development Commission
Minutes – October 27, 2020
Rochester City Hall Annex – Online Teams Meeting
33 Wakefield Street, Rochester, NH

Members Present Remotely: Jonathan Shapleigh, Troy Dillow, Janet Davis, Kristen Bournival, Paul Giuliano, Marsha Miller

Members Absent Remotely: Mark Hourihane, Kris Ebbeson, Whitney Bolton

Others Present: Mike Scala, Jenn Marsh, Julian Long

- 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 September minutes as presented. Janet seconded the motion. Roll call was taken, all in favor.
- C. Julian Long introduced himself and the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). He noted some recent projects involving Economic Development have been the JOB Loan program and the downtown sign and façade program. Julian also partners with the Small Business Development Center to help promote technical assistance to small businesses. Jonathan asked if there were any funds regarding COVID-19. As an entitlement community Rochester has received two rounds of funding as part of the Cares Act. The second round applications are due this Friday.
- D. Julian gave an overview of the JOB Loan program that is available to Rochester business which is also part of the CDBG program. There is currently about \$133,000 available to lend. Julian noted these are federal funds so Davis Bacon Wages and Environmental Reviews are involved in the project if necessary. Jonathan noted that he was on the committee that reviews applications and the committee make a recommendation to the City Manager who has final approval over the loans. The loan terms are flexible and the rate is $\frac{3}{4}$ of prime. Jenn mentioned she would work with Julian and Matt Wyatt to do a press release to help promote the revolving loan fund. Jenn also

noted that the Main Street Relief Fund 2.0 had an application deadline of this Thursday at 4pm.

E. Mike gave an update on projects.

LDI- held their groundbreaking last week. All invoices for construction will be reviewed by LDI, the REDC and the City's finance department.

Sig Sauer – the projects and agreements are in the works now. They hope to be operating in Rochester within 6 months.

Chinburg – Mike is working with public works to extend the water main to this project and another building on No Main Street. They hope to get started within the next few weeks. Target opening is still October 2021.

38 Hanson – Mike noted there are a few developers that have looked at the property.

Prep Partners – should be starting in the next few weeks.

Pella Windows – was approved by Planning Board

Intec Automation – they held their pre-construction meeting last week and are anxious to begin construction in the Ten Rod Road Park.

F. Jonathan updated the board on the revolving loan fund. The committee met last week and looking at how to utilize BFA funds for Rochester projects. They will be working on packaging up the program in order to present to City Council in 2021.

G. Jenn discussed the members that need to renew. She also reminded the committee to think about 2021 rolls. Jonathan agreed that he would like stay as the Chair with no objection from the Committee. Jenn will work with Jonathan and other members to renew and get approval for Jonathan to remain Chairperson.

H. Jenn noted that the REDC usually holds a holiday meeting in December. The board discussed a gathering and agreed to push it off until spring when they can meet outside. In November the board will discuss if they will hold their December meeting as usual. The board discussed meeting in person versus virtual and agreed to keep the meetings virtual until further notice. Jenn will reach out to the Mayor to see if she has any recommendations for a seat that will be empty as of 1/2/2021.

I. Other: Jonathan asked Paul how the REDC can assist the GBCC to help enhance local partnerships and educational programs. Paul stated that Rochester is dedicated solely to work with businesses in Rochester and provide a pathway for students in the CTC and SHS into the workforce.

J. Adjourn: Janet made a motion to adjourn at 9:12am. Marsha seconded the motion. Roll call was taken, all in favor.

Next Meeting is scheduled for November 24th at 8:00 am via online Teams meeting.



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