ROCHESTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES – January 8, 2015

4:00PM CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

31 WAKEFIELD STREET

ROCHESTER, NH

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rick Lundborn, Chair

Susan DeRoy

Mark Hourihane

John Larochelle

Jennifer Marsh, ED Specialist

Ron Poulin

Kevin Ryan

Kris Ebeson – Guest & Prospective Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Karen Pollard, ED Manager

Janet Davis

Jonathan Shapleigh

1. CALL TO ORDER: Rick Lundborn called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. Attendance was taken.
2. APPROVAL: December minutes – a motion was made by Mark Hourihane to accept, seconded by Susan DeRoy. Motion passed.
3. PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS: a motion was made by John Larochelle, seconded by Mark Hourihane that the REDC recommend Kris Ebeson of Riverstone Custom Framing in Rochester for consideration by the City Council as new member of the REDC. Motion passed.
4. CURRENT MEMBERS: Rick Lundborn informed the REDC he has taken a job in York, ME. Rick indicated his role on the REDC will change since he will not work or live in Rochester. The RECD expressed appreciation for Rick’s hard work and expertise and wished him to remain as Chair as long as permitted by rules and procedures. It is hoped Rick will be able to, at minimum, finish the 2015 year.
5. 2015 PRIORITIES AND GOALS: 18 priorities and goals were reviewed and evaluated for completeness and reprioritization. Much has been accomplished and much is left to do. Jenn Marsh offered to synthesize the evaluations and produce an updated list for 2015 that is reprioritized as needed. Related to the specific Priority/Goal “Expand ED Office Capacity”, a motion was made by Rick Lundborn and seconded by Susan DeRoy that a letter should be written by the RECD in which the RECD recommends to City Council the purchase and rehabilitation of the Carney Medical building to house Economic Development, Planning and Code Enforcement. Motion passed.
6. SPAULDING TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION: Rick Lundborn informed the REDC that the Strafford Regional Planning Commission’s legislative discussion has been moved to February. The specific date of this meeting was not available.
7. TAX REASSESSMENT AND COUNCIL REACTION TO LETTER: Discussion took place regarding this issue including City Council’s decision to spend up to $3,000 to hire an independent third party to review recent tax assessment value changes.
8. REDC MEMBERSHIP CODE REQUIREMENTS: Discussion took place regarding this issue and the desire to amend the residency requirements was expressed by the REDC. It was unclear if the origin of the residency requirement was in the City’s ordinance or the State’s Revised Statute Annotated. John Larochelle offered to research whether enabling legislation at the state level exists and governs the residency requirements.
9. ADJOURN: Rick Lundborn motioned, seconded by Kevin Ryan, to adjourn at 5:45pm.