

ROCHESTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES – March 13, 2014
4:00PM CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
31 WAKEFIELD STREET
ROCHESTER, NH

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rick Lundborn, Chair
John Larochelle
Ron Poulin

Kevin Ryan
Heather Tacconi
Timothy Cremmen

Karen Pollard
Mike Provost (guest)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Janet Davis, Susan DeRoy, Jonathan Shapleigh

- A. CALL TO ORDER: Rick Lundborn called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. Attendance was taken.
- B. APPROVAL: January minutes – motion made by John Larochelle, seconded by Rick Lundborn. Motion passed. February minutes – there was no February meeting due to inclement weather.
- C. SPAULDING TRANSPORTATION COALITION: Members reviewed invitee list and decided to request RVSPs from invitees. The opening meeting of the Coalition scheduled for February 19 was cancelled due to inclement weather.
ACTION TAKEN: Opening meeting rescheduled to May 7. REDC members will assist in making follow-up calls to invitees to confirm attendance.
- D. ZONING: Members discussed recommendations related to Chapter 42 Zoning
ACTION TAKEN: John Larochelle motioned to have REDC recommend to the City Council in writing changes that allow more flexibility and increased staff input in the planning process. Ron Poulin seconded and motion was passed.
ACTION TAKEN: Heather Tacconi motioned to have REDC recommend to the City Council in writing the inclusion of a special downtown review process. John Larochelle seconded and the motion passed.
ACTION TAKEN: Rick Lundborn motioned to have REDC recommend to the Community Development Committee in writing the creation of “one sheet” summary documents of zoning requirements for each of the City’s respective zones. The summaries would not change any underlying zoning requirements. The summaries are intended to improve communication of and compliance with zoning requirements. John Larochelle seconded and the motion passed.
- E. DISCUSSION: Members discussed the need for multifamily housing in Rochester and its importance in supporting industrial development and expansion.
- F. BRANDING INITIATIVE: Additional funds have been contributed by Laars Heating Systems. Follow-up meetings are scheduled with Safran and Albany Engineered Composites.
- G. DISCUSSION: Members discussed a project/permitting management software program that is being considered by the City. The software and accompanying tablets will aid the city in managing development projects more efficiently and effectively. Various City departments will have access to and benefit from the software/tablets including Planning/Engineering, Public Works, Code Enforcement and Assessing. Benefits include reducing costs of managing projects and issuing permits, potentially increasing revenues through an enhanced assessing function, projecting greater professionalism of city employees and further presenting the City as “business-friendly”. Funds to purchase the software and tablets are available through the Granite Ridge TIF.
- H. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: Per RSA 91(A), John Larochelle motioned to enter a non-public session regarding land. Tim Cremmen seconded and the motion passed. Attendance was taken. In attendance were the same members listed above with the exception of Mike Provost.
- I. ADJOURN: Motion made by Tim Cremmen, seconded by John Larochelle. Meeting adjourned at 6pm.