

Town of Hampton Economic Development Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

In attendance: Chris White (*staff*), Josh Adams (*Chair*), Councillor Todd Beach, Michel Boudreau, Jill Ganong, Chris Rendell

Regrets: Trina Forest, Marcelle Bélanger, Richard Malone, Heather Libbey, Bruce Fowler

1. **Call to Order:** Josh Adams called the meeting to order at 6:32pm
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Michel Boudreau, seconded by Todd Beach
3. **Declaration of Conflict of interest:** none
4. **Approval of Minutes:** moved by Michel Boudreau, seconded by Chris Rendell to approve minutes of September 19, 2023.
5. **Business Arising from the Minutes:**
 - a. Local Governance Reform: Chris White reported Regional Transportation committee has two key deliverables for 2024: Survey to understand transportation needs; Active Transportation Month campaign. Chris W noted survey needs to be wide reaching – looking for committee input to identify groups to be surveyed (e.g. students, seniors, etc.).
 - b. Envision Saint John: Chris noted a Residential Market Study & Housing Demand survey will be completed by Parcel and Envision. Tourism Stats from Envision tracking tool showing record number of US visitors this year in Hampton. 23% in August, 41% of September traffic.
 - c. Regional Facilities – Chris White to send information to members via email.
6. **New Business:**
 - a. Housing Accelerator Fund application – Dillon Consulting was engaged to submit an HAF application to facilitate needed housing growth. Five key areas identified for approx. \$6 million.
 - b. Developer Session: Envision Saint John hosting a session Nov 1st for area developers with presentations by modular building companies. Accelerate housing developments and missing middle housing gaps. 2 Staff/council and area developers will be invited to attend.
7. **Reports:**
 - a. Planning & Development – Chris White shared September stats from Planning Department.
 - b. Planning Advisory Committee Report – Chris Rendell gave update on recent work of PAC, including review of Cannabis Retail application. Discussion of definition of Retail.
 - c. Chamber of Commerce Report – Todd Beach reported Fall Business Mixer at Visitor Information Centre a success. Small Business Awards night October 19th. Shop the Town will include a Business Bingo with specials from area retailers.
 - d. Chris Rendell moved the reports be accepted as read; seconded by Michel Boudreau.
8. **Correspondence:**
 - a. Charged for Change: New EV Charger grant program from Earth Day Canada. Application opens November 6 – Feb 22. Chris White to investigate eligibility re: new Multi-purpose Facility.
 - b. Rural Internet Service – request for the town to engage with the province and telcos re: plans for better rural service.
9. **Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday, November 28th, 6:00pm in Council Chambers.
10. **Adjournment:** Councillor Todd Beach so moved at 7:36 pm