

Town of Hampton Economic Development Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

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

Regrets: Trina Forest, Chris Rendell

1. **Call to Order:** Josh Adams called the meeting to order at 6:31pm
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Michel Boudreau, seconded by Marcelle Bélanger
3. **Declaration of Conflict of interest:** none
4. **Approval of Minutes:** moved by Jill Ganong, seconded by Michel Boudreau to approve minutes of November 28, 2023.
5. **Business Arising from the Minutes:**
 - a. Local Governance Reform: report from Richard Malone detailed: new Municipal Plan now posted on website; Zoning By-law received 3rd and final reading at January Council; plans for one RCMP contract still being reviewed; 2024 Budget posted online; no update on recycling yet.
 - b. Envision Saint John: report from Richard Malone detailed: RFP has closed for a Regional Economic Development & Tourism strategy; working on changes to the Members Agreement to reflect new structure with FRSC.
 - c. Zoning By-law: Discussed in 5a.
 - d. Storefront Improvement Grant: launched January 6th and closes March 7th – applicants reviewed at March Council. One application received to date.
6. **New Business:**
 - a. Residential Market Housing Study – Chris White shared Envision’s first draft of the study. Committee discussed ways to make zoning changes that allow greater density more widely known – target the homeowner who might develop a granny suite. Chris to review internally. Committee discussed developer incentives focused on smaller size homes / density housing. Chris to review internally and provide overview of existing Developer Incentives at next session.
 - b. Regional Transportation Initiatives 2024 – Chris noted the committee is preparing to develop and deliver a survey in partnership with UNB professor Dr. Julia Woodhall Melnick. Richard to attend focus group.
 - c. Events 2024 – Chris reviewed details re: WinterFest and business involvement. Committee had suggestions for events – Crowdfunder an adult movie option for summer movie series; Earth Day garbage pick-up.
7. **Reports:**
 - a. Planning & Development Update: Chris reviewed stats for January 2024
 - b. PAC Report: Chris R not present – tabled for February session
 - c. Chamber Report: Todd reported Mike Caines, Justin Sweeney and Kelci Goucher joined board of HACC; Job Burns resigned; Shop the Town went OK; student grant for 2024 submitted; March 13 Lunch & Learn with Envision SJ at Station 33 Café.
8. **Correspondence:**
 - a. Looking into business transfer / sale of Osprey Adventures; two businesses seeking retail space.
9. **Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday, February 20, 2024, 6:30pm in Council Chambers.
10. **Adjournment:** Councillor Todd Beach so moved at 7:37 pm