

Town of Hampton Economic Development Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

In attendance: Chris White (*staff*), Josh Adams (*Chair*), Councillor Todd Beach, Michel Boudreau, Jill Ganong, Marcelle Bélanger, Heather Libbey, Chris Rendell, Justin Sweeney. Guest presenter Arthur McCarthy.

Regrets: Trina Forest,

1. **Call to Order:** Josh Adams called the meeting to order at 6:33pm
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Michel Boudreau, seconded by Chris Rendell
3. **Special Presentation:** Arthur McCarthy, Director of Planning & Development, presented on the Rogers Tower proposal per the request of Council. The proposal for a tower installation at Chapman's Ice Cream location on William Bell Drive has been in review; original request was for a larger tower and closer to the road. Rogers has revised and is looking to install smaller (40m) tower, pinwheel style, at back of property to be less visually obtrusive. Committee asked if landowners in area will be notified for review, Arthur confirmed. Jill Ganong asked if it will impact the R2 zoned land adjacent; Arthur advised that landowner would be informed. Chris Rendell asked how the unit can be so close to adjacent property lines; Arthur confirmed this type of installation is federally regulated and meets standards for these towers. Arthur is presenting to committees of Council and following will be a Public Consultation process. It was moved by Michél Boudreau and seconded by Justin Sweeney that Economic Development Committee advise Council that the committee is in concurrence with the proposed project. Arthur McCarthy left session; regular meeting resumed.
4. **Declaration of Conflict of interest:** none
5. **Approval of Minutes:** moved by Michel Boudreau, seconded by Heather Libbey to approve minutes of February 20, 2024.
6. **Business Arising from the Minutes:**
 - a. Local Governance Reform: Councillor Todd Beach shared changes to Garbage Collection are still a focus. Chris White shared that garbage collection info campaign will be added to social media in the coming months. Jill Ganong asked why brush clean-up was removed in Ward 2; Chris White and Councillor Todd Beach shared that the decision was as a result of the extended area and the inability to equally offer the program, as well as issues with the volume of material that was being created by landowners. Chris White reported that the Fundy Region Service Commission Transportation survey is now live.
 - b. Envision Saint John: Marcelle Bélanger shared that Craig Wilkins' lunch and learn session with the HACC members was well attended and very well received – great deal of resources shared. Chris White discussed a new survey hosted by Envision to measure local perceptions on growth and development. Chris White to share survey link with committee members.
 - c. Storefront Improvement Grant: Four applications approved by Council contingent on building permits and inspections. One applicant did not qualify conditions of the grant.
 - d. Campaign re: Small Scale Development: Chris White updated committee that staff will work on a package detailing new possibilities around small-scale development (granny suites, basement apartments, multi-tenancy) to spur gentle density solutions. Chris Rendell asked if past PAC requests of this nature that were refused could be revisited? Chris White to investigate. Heather Libbey and Jill Ganong suggested a pilot project or sample solutions that could help illustrate the new allowances around infill/density. Chris White to investigate.
7. **New Business:**
 - a. Tourism 2024: Chris White shared draft of new Visitor Guide prepared by Kelly Green. Additional brochures to come for Parks & Trails, Stonehammer Geopark, Historic Homes Tour, and Public Art Tour. Staff met with Department of Tourism this week to discuss trails in the area and potential for development and promotion of these assets.

- b. Earth Day: Staff are working with local non-profit and business partners on Earth Day programming for Saturday, April 20 from 11am to 2pm. Will include Stonehammer Stroll, talks with Horticultural staff, and family events.
- c. Food & Beverage Tour: scheduled for Saturday, May 25 from 2-7pm; 9 area food and beverage participants. Trolley service for all ticket holders.

8. Reports:

- a. Planning & Development Update: Tabled until April meeting.
- b. PAC Report: Chris R reported that committee has not met.
- c. Chamber Report: Todd reported Mixer at Floyd's very successful; Curling Funspiel well attended. Board going through by-law review and working towards national accreditation. Next mixer is April 15 at Cardinal Insurance. Currently at 129 members – largest ever in the chamber's history.
- d. Moved by Marcelle Bélanger to accept the reports; seconded by Chris Rendell.

9. Correspondence:

- a. None

10. **Next Meeting Date**: Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 6:30pm in Council Chambers.

11. **Adjournment**: Councillor Todd Beach so moved at 8:17 pm

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____