

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

August 16, 2018

MINUTES

Present: Jeanny Aldrich, Philip Shaw, Don Brehm, Christine Dufresne

Absent: Simon Jones

Guests: Jon McKeon, Brad Roscoe

Minutes:

A motion was made/seconded (Brehm/Shaw) to approve the minutes of July 19, 2018 minutes as written with all in favor.

Old Business:

Help from NH EDC:

Mollie Kaylor/State of NH EDC Retention Specialist contacted Jeanny regarding Mike Bergeron's interest in meeting with our Committee to discuss revitalization. Mike will be contacted with the hope of scheduling a meeting (hopefully within the next few weeks).

Website update recommended by Ms. Kaylor (June 21, 2018 minutes) is being undertaken by Jeanny Aldrich. Rules and regulations of Chesterfield will be followed in design and content of site.

New Business:

Development Opportunities:

Jon McKeon addressed the Committee regarding property on Mill Road that may be an opportunity to bring a VT based company to Chesterfield. The Committee will investigate further. Jon also advised the Committee that a newly acquired property on Route 9 has been leased, by the Saba brothers, to G. S. Precision. They will be creating a manufacturing facility at the location.

Broadband:

Brad Roscoe addressed the Committee at length regarding his ongoing research to bring Broadband service to Chesterfield. His focus was on the millennials and property values. Research reflects the ever growing need for dependable high speed internet services is impacting property values. Real estate values are plummeting when high-speed

internet is not available. This loss in value could lay the framework for re-evaluation appraisals and abatement requests from homeowners. In addition to a possible loss in tax revenue it will become increasingly more difficult to attract business to Chesterfield without the broadband coverage that metropolitan areas provide.

RFP's have been sent and the proposals are expected in November '18.

Brad is facilitating the process on the town's behalf.

Board/Committee Member Training:

Board/Committee members are asked to complete a minimum of 3 training classes each year. The classes will be paid by the Town and are in state. A list of available classes will be forwarded for review. To sign-up for your chosen classes you simply have to send an email to the Town Administrator with your requests.

Notes:

There will be a Dessert and Discussion (informal meeting with Board of Selectmen) the evening of Wednesday, August 22, 2018.

Next Special Meeting:

To be determined on availability of Mike Bergeron

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:

Thursday, September 20, 2018 at 6:30PM

A motion to adjourn was made/seconded (Shaw/Brehm) and accepted by all.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Dufresne, EDC Chair