

DRAFT MINUTES

Exeter Economic Development Commission

August 28, 2018

Present: Lizbeth MacDonald – Chair, Russell Dean – Town Manager, Ian Smith - Vice Chair, Darren Winham- Economic Development Director, Madeleine Hamel - Clerk, Dan Gutstein, John Mueller, Earl Murphy, John Tremblay.

1. **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mrs. Lizbeth MacDonald - Chair.
2. Mr. Russell Dean – Town Manager introduced Mr. Earl Murphy as a new Member.
3. The Committee welcomed Mr. Earl Murphy.
4. **Business Retention and Expansion Updates:**

Mr. John Mueller says Businesses were very receptive and excited about the Towns growth. Others found it challenging to find employees at the lower level.

Mr. John Tremblay says he interviewed Paul Valentine the Plant Manager, He also interviewed Kay Mac near the Front Row Restaurant and they were generally content nothing major. Except they said the town is not easy to get new business elements. Some other comments were they do not see the town growing and no growth was expected.

Mrs. Hamel says she has a couple of appointments scheduled.

Mr. Winham says it was a good turn out and they hope to have everything in by mid to late September.

5. **Meeting Date/Time Discussion:**

Mr. Russell Dean – Town Manager says that the Commission sort of graveled with Evening attendance and a lot of it is related due to the day and time that we meet. We sort of have more from a Day Committee to a Night Committee. We have the opportunity now to sort of set, if we can do it a day and time that we think may work for most of us. And we do not have to hash it out tonight. Obviously we are available during the day and we can meet during the day, it would not interfere with the recordings they can be done during the day. It used to be a morning Committee and 8:30 am or 9:00 am might work. It is open for discussion.

After a lengthy discussion the Committee decided to meet on every 4th Friday of the month at 8am.

6. Darren's updates (TIF, etc,):

Mr. Winham – Director of Economic Development says Epping Road is about to explode with large projects. There will be a 70,000 Sqft Building going in and other large Businesses coming to Town. We have several different options and will negotiate for property on Thursday. Building will be going on this winter and coming spring – Light will be in by spring. There is also the Holland Way and Portsmouth Ave development.

7. Election of Officers:

Mrs. Lizbeth MacDonald says not sure what was done last year. But the following is what is coming up for election.

Chair

Vice Chair

Treasurer

Will add to next meeting Agenda.

Mr. Russell Dean – Town Manager briefly addressed that when there is no quorum, a group of people can have a discussion about things but cannot vote on anything. He also mentioned that we or need to update the Ordinance, truncate the Commission down to 7 or 9 or 5 to 4 to make a quorum.

Mr. Dan Gutstein Motioned to Adjourn the Meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20pm

Next Meeting September 25th 2018 – AM Meeting

Respectfully submitted

Melody Hypolite
Recording Secretary

DRAFT