

MINUTES

**HOOKSETT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
HOOKSETT TOWN HALL
HOOKSETT, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Wednesday, November 9, 2011**

Call to Order: Chair Ahlquist called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm.

Present: Matt Mercier, David Scarpetti, William Sirak and Chair Craig Ahlquist

Staff: Dean E. Shankle, Jr. (Town Administrator)

Approval of Minutes

The October 12, 2011 minutes were approved as amended.

Town Administrator's Report

D. Shankle spoke with the Assistant DOT Commissioner who said there are no DOT plans for the Exit 11 area.

W. Sirak stated former Commissioner Campbell indicated an interest on discussing potential sale of DOT properties at Exit 11. They would like to work in concert with the Town rather than working directly with the developers, construction companies, etc. The Town should follow up and continue discussion on how to proceed.

The Town will meet with the new DOT Commissioner and the Liquor Commission to explore possibilities of moving the Liquor Store to the Exit 11 area.

SNHPC is in the process of conducting a study on a possible TIF District. A survey was sent to the residents in the area. Interviews were also conducted. A public workshop will be held on December 1st at 7 pm at the Public Library to discuss survey results. SNHPC will also make a presentation on the interviews conducted.

Town Planner's Report

Exit 11

Responses to the survey are coming in at a good rate. Jack Munn of SNHPC will be finalizing a report on the survey results and meet with me next week. An informational meeting is scheduled for December 1 at 7:00 pm at the Hooksett Library. All of the residents within this outlined area will be invited.

Certified Sites Program

A meeting was recently held at SNHPC with the town planners from the region. Concerns were raised as to how the program would work. It was decided that a meeting would be held with a few developers within the region. This meeting has been scheduled for November 22 at 3 pm at the offices of SNHPC.

Planning Board Activity

- Office Building for a mortgage company approved on Londonderry Turnpike.
- Three lot subdivision approved on Thames Road.
- Workshop meeting for the purpose of reviewing changes to the Development Regulations on November 21. Currently, regulations state that the Town Engineer (Stantec) will have to do the inspections. The changes will provide option for Town staff to do inspections and not go through Stantec.

2011-2012 Strategic EDC Business Plan Review

- Chair C. Ahlquist and the Town Administrator will meet with the top 10 businesses in Hooksett.
- Round table/focus group discussions with businesses.
- Meeting with Hooksett Chamber of Commerce, re: working together and promoting each other.
- Discussion with commercial Brokers –December 14th at 1 pm. Mike Reed will coordinate.

Chamber of Commerce Meeting

The Hooksett Chamber of Commerce is holding a meeting at Tri-Town Ice Rink today (November 9, 2011).

Nominating Committee

Jesse Marchand introduced himself to the board. Mr. Marchand has been a resident of Hooksett for a couple of years. He is a Business Development Representative for DSI Systems, Inc., a national consumer electronics distributor. He is looking forward to working and reaching out to local business owners.

The board voted to recommend to the Town Council the appointment of Mr. Marchand to the board.

Meeting Schedule

The board agreed to change the meeting time from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm starting with the January 11th meeting. December 14, 2011 meeting will be held at 12:00 noon.

Impact Fees

D. Scarpetti stated if the Town wants to encourage more businesses to come to Hooksett, is it necessary to charge them impact fees? These are what most developers are complaining about.

D. Shankle explained impact fees are meant to offset growth impacts.

W. Sirak suggested preparing a comparable impact fees data of Hooksett and other towns (comparable in size).

Business Expo

Discussion on some ideas with regards to holding a Business Expo.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Evelyn F. Horn
Administrative Assistant