

Minutes, Bucksport Economic Development Committee – November 14, 2017

David Kee called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

- I. **Attendance:**
 - A. EDC Committee Members Present: *David Kee, Andy Lacher, Mark Eastman, Larry Wahl, Paul Rabs, Jim Boothby, John Paul LaLonde, Peter Stewart, Daphne Eyerer, Linda Plourde, and Ron Russell*
 - B. Town Employees Present: *Jeff Hammond and Rich Rotella.*
- II. **Minutes:**
 - A. Motion for approval by Peter and seconded by John Paul. Vote in favor 10-0.
- III. **Public Participation:**
 - A. No public Participation.
- IV. **CEO/Planning Board Update**
 - A. Charter Amendment approved by voters and becomes effective December 7, 2017.
 - B. Ordinance Change to Appendix I and become effective December 9, 2017.
 - a. Fees & Rules removed from appendix and will be a separate document
 - C. Working on Schedule of Fees.
 - D. Planning Board received an amended plan for Bucksport Methodist Church from 2 story building to a 1 story building.
 - E. Planning Board will receive contract zone proposal for 100 lot mobile homepark.
- V. **Broadband Grant Update**
 - A. Executive summary handed out to members
 - B. Still waiting on 2 Addendums from Axiom Technologies
 - a. No service offered in an area of Bucksport on Millvale Road
 - b. Affordable internet for residences of Gardner Commons, Wenbelle, Senior Center, and Knoxview Apartments to include telehealth resources.
- VI. **ADAPT Update**
 - A. Findings summary handed out to members
 - B. Second chance survey put on Facebook
 - C. Next Open House scheduled for the Spring of 2018
- VII. **MS Fram Update**
 - A. Norwegian cruise ship coming to Bucksport on April 19, 2018.
 - B. Ice or bad weather conditions will prevent floats from going in river
 - C. Request for Mike & Jay's input into ability to put floats in early based on projections of last 10-15 years.
- VIII. **69 Main Street:**
 - A. Former Payson Floral building currently for sale
 - B. Building has been shown several times with no success as building needs updating
 - C. Possible Outcomes
 - a. Town potentially purchase, tear down and construct a parking lot and have it linked to Central St parking lot located behind MacLeod's.
 - b. Potentially use TIF \$ to incentivize prospective buyer(s) to fix up Main St level to help move sale of the building.

- c. Building Inspection to see cost of needed repairs.
- d. Façade Grant
- e. Engineer Study on Nason Property which is causing running water to flow into nearby properties' basements

IX. Wilson Hall Update:

- A. Town Council appropriated up to \$30,000 to sure up the roof (put on hold)
- B. Rep Campbell received developer status for next 5 months with (2) 3 month options for possible boutique for elder care facility

X. Old Business:

- A. Friends of Silver Lake
 - a. Meeting with Zach Steele from Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation talked about AIM's need for Emergency Action Plan for dams, milfoil issue, and preparation for dams when find out who the purchaser will be.
- B. Signs
 - a. Were sent to a finance committee meeting where the proposal was rejected due to more clarity/cost was needed.
 - b. Rich has been given guidance and will re do plan to bring back to committee once complete.

XI. New Business:

- A. Calendar of events for holiday season was handed out to group
- B. Proposal from a citizen to have this committee sponsor an Architectural Design Contest to redesign Bucksport's Main Street.
- C. Sam Russell, New York filmmaker, short film "Papertown" about mill closing and premiered at Camden Film Festival. There will be 2 free showings at the Alamo next Tuesday with a reception between both screenings.
- D. New Business Open:
 - a. Blossoms By The Bay
 - b. Bucksport Bay Tanning/Jan's Barber Shop
 - c. Friars' Tap Room – opening not until January
- E. AIM property:
 - a. Interested party from China toured former mill sites in the state including the former Verso Paper Mill site.
 - b. Toured the site with Mary Mayhew earlier today.
 - c. Front Street Shipyard toured the site but decided on expansion in Belfast.
 - d. Maine Maritime Academy have decided not to pursue the site any longer.

XII. Adjournment:

- A. Peter adjourned the meeting at 6:07pm

Submitted by Rich Rotella

Next BEDC Meeting will be February 6, 2018!

Please note audio of this meeting is available on the town's website.