

**TOWN OF ROCKY MOUNT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 22, 2022
5:30 P.M.**

The Economic Development Authority (EDA) of the Town of Rocky Mount, Virginia met at the Rocky Mount Municipal Building on Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 5:30 p.m., with Chairman Adam Lynch, presiding.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS PRESENT

Board Members Present: Chairman Adam Lynch, Vice Chair Doug Guilliams, Economic Development Authority Board Members Ruth Cook, Justin Muse, Tara Holley, Mark Redden, and Amy Worley

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present: Economic Development Director Daniel Pinard, EDA Clerk Cherie Compton, Town Attorney John Boitnott, Assistant Town Manager Mark Moore, Town Manager Robert Wood and Micah Davidson from Midwood Entertainment

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions or Corrections: None

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented

Motion By: Member Tara Holley

Second: Member Mark Redden

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Let the record show that prior to the meeting, Economic Development Authority received the following draft minutes for review and consideration of approval:

September 27, 2022 - Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve minutes as presented

Motion By: Vice Chair Doug Guilliams

Second: Member Amy Worley

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

SECRETARY REPORT

Economic Development Clerk Cherie Compton advised members that the statement ending October 31, 2022 had a balance of \$5,000.00.

STAFF UPDATES

Economic Development Director Daniel Pinard provided the following business updates:

- Welcomed Ruth Cook to the EDA
- Contacted ABC about DORA, also spoke with City of Norton about applying as a municipality and what the benefits of doing so were and what the next steps were moving forward with the DORA process
- Progress is being made with the tobacco commission grant for improving the tier status for the Cox Property
- Starbucks plans to open in January
- Old Towne Social Bar hopes to open in January
- New Yamazato has had difficulty getting materials so opening date has not been set
- Sidewalk sale was a great event with a lot of feedback
- VA Tourism marketing leverage program grant that was received wrapped up in October. Facebook reached over 600,000 and 120,000 on Instagram
- Events coming up in Town are Come Home to a Franklin County Christmas December 2nd, Step into Christmas Home Tour December 3rd, Bald Knob Winter Art Show at Depot December 3rd, and the Christmas Parade December 4th
- Working on getting dog park in Town possibly near the YMCA behind the Jammin building

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None at this time

OLD BUSINESS

None at this time

Assistant Town Manager Mark Moore discussed his role with the Harvester as the LLC Manager. He touched on the operations, budgeting, audits, accountant, taxes and the economic interests that the Harvester has brought to the town. In fiscal year 2022 the Harvester hosted 51 artists and over 11,000 music goers from 39 states and 3 countries. Mr. Moore added that these music goers visit local restaurants and local businesses and they stay in local hotels and bed & breakfasts. Many also return to visit the Farmers Market, parks, Crooked Road Trail, the Train Depot, town events, breweries, distilleries and so much more. Midwood Entertainment was hired in 2021 to run the operations and book talent for the Harvester and they meet with Assistant Town Manager and accountant often. Looking forward, there will be more local music hosted at the Harvester including the Homegrown Music Series as well as other local events like the high school prom, band concerts, and many more events.

CLOSED MEETING AND ACTION

Chair Adam Lynch read aloud the section and asked for a motion.

Motion: To go into closed session under the Virginia Code Section cited below

Virginia Code Section:

Section 2.2-3711 (A) (8) Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

Motion By: Member Mark Redden

Second: Member Ruth Cook

Action: To go into closed meeting

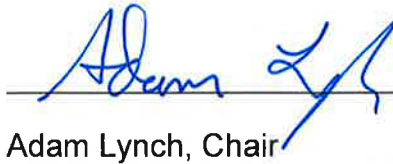
Certificate of Closed Meeting Discussion:

Rocky Mount Economic Development Authority certified unanimously that nothing was discussed in the closed meeting other than what was stated in the motion to enter the closed meeting. No action was taken during the closed meeting.

Whereas, the Rocky Mount Economic Development Authority has convened a closed meeting on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

Whereas, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, requires certification by this Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

Now, therefore, Be It Resolved that the Rocky Mount Economic Development Authority hereby certifies that, to the best of each members' knowledge: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting by the public body.



Adam Lynch, Chair

NEW BUSINESS

Quarterly Payments

Daniel requested approval for the EDA to accept the checks from the Town and quarterly accounting checks to be written to the Harvester Performance Center LLC in the in the amounts of \$93,038.75 and \$101,631.75

Motion: To accept the checks from the town in the amounts of \$93,038.75 and \$101,631.75 and checks to be written to the Harvester Performance Center LLC in the amounts of \$93,038.75 and \$101,631.75

Motion By: Vice Chair Doug Guilliams

Second: Member Justin Muse

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

2023 Meeting Dates

Chair Adam Lynch and Economic Development Director presented the 2023 meeting dates with a meeting being held every 4th Tuesday of every month except there will be no meeting in December of 2023.

Motion: To approve the 2023 EDA meeting calendar as presented

Motion By: Member Tara Holley

Second: Member Mark Redden

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

Town Email Addresses

Daniel Pinard stated that the EDA members will be given a Town email address and moving forward they will be using those emails for correspondence between members and staff.

AUTHORITY BOARD COMMENTS

None at this time

UPCOMING NETWORKING EVENTS & EDA MEETINGS

Community Partnership - December 12, 2022 9:00 am (1035 Franklin St)
Franklin County Connects - December 14, 2022 9:00 am (Franklin Center)
Community Partnership - January 9, 2023 9:00 am (1035 Franklin St)
Franklin County Connects - January 11, 2023 9:00 am (Franklin Center)
EDA Meeting - January 24, 2023 - 5:30 pm (Town Municipal Bldg)

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn By: Member Tara Holley

Second: Member Amy Worley

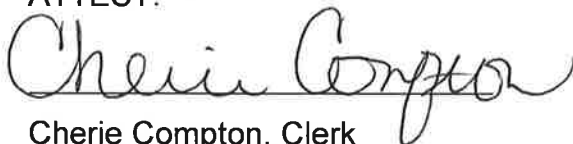
Action: Adjourned by a unanimous vote of members present

Time of Adjournment: 7:30 p.m.



Adam Lynch, Chairman

ATTEST:



Cherie Compton, Clerk

