

MINUTES
SKOWHEGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Regular Meeting
Wednesday January 4, 2023 9:00 AM
Municipal Building – Council Room

Members:

Reid Gibson
Billy Finley
Donna McGorty
Patric Moore
Steve Govoni

Others Present:

Jeff Hewett, Director of Econ. & Comm. Dev.
Alisha Simpson, Recording Secretary

Members Absent:

Cole Clement
Steve Gray
Matt Dubois

Members of Public

Travis Bickford from Water Co. Left at 9:45am

1. Call regular meeting to order.

Billy Finley called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

2. Approve the Skowhegan Economic Development Corporation minutes from the November 2, 2022 regular meeting.

A motion by Donna McGorty, second by Steve Govoni to approve the minutes from the November 2, 2022 meeting. V- 5/0, motion carried.

3. Approve the Skowhegan Economic Development Corporation financials from December 2022.

A motion by Reid Gibson, second by Patric Moore to approve V-5/0 the financials from December 2022.

4. Old Business

4d was taken out of order since Travis was in attendance.

**a. Vote on to install an annunciator in the fisher plow unit-approved
V 5/0 to approve**

b. Update on the Renaissance heater system

Jeff Hewett said the problem with the heating system started in the retail space it would not switch over to cool & with the glass in the front it would reach

over 100 degrees. Finally got that resolved it was hard to find anyone to work on the split system. The two offices upstairs now the heating unit went down, Fabian oil ordered the part. They got portion of the part in & we are waiting on the rest of the part. The other office has heat so that's keeping it going for now. We will have to look at another heating system in the future.

c. Update on Traci Robbins

Jeff Hewett said he sent out an email on this, in court the negotiation is Traci is required to start paying \$200.00 15th of every month starting January 15th 2023. If she misses just one payment we will be going back to court unless board members tell Jeff otherwise.

d. Discussion of the 2023 water company project on Madison Ave.

Jeff Hewett has put a number of calls out to Nitram & so has Travis Bickford. They have not got feedback yet from them. Travis from the Water Co. is going to start the project on Water St by the old bank, all the way to Cumberland Farms & run to Commercial St to the Chamber. The water company will replace all service pipes for the fire protection. If we get Nitram to do this pipeline project they will only install to the base of the buildings. The businesses will be responsible for getting the water pipe lines hooked to their buildings for fire protection. Bloomfield's does not have a connection. There are 3 shut off connections in front of Salisbury's. Steve Govoni spoke about fire protection codes & said if codes come into effect, it will be costly. Patric said according to codes, he does not need it now for his business. Jeff said the town does have some money for sewage & water projects.

Donna McGorty mentioned while waiting on Nitram to give us a quote, can we get the other ones on board to get the project going. Jeff Hewett said we can get this going before we get our answers from Nitram. Jeff will get started getting Maine fire or Eastern fire to give some ideas. Jeff will look into funding.

e. Confirm vote to close out certificate of deposit at Skowhegan Savings Bank.

Jeff Hewett wanted the close out to be confirmed in the meeting. V5/0 All approved.

f. Update on Southgate Sappi

Jeff contacted Sappi; he has not heard back from them.

g. Confirm update on installing outdoor lights at Northgate

The lighting is a safety issue can SEDC move forward with installing lights. Motion Reid & second Donna V 5/0

5. New Business

a. Discussion on December emails sent out to the board about interest in lot 2 at Southgate.

Del Franklin wants to purchase the lot for his lay down yard with trucks coming in & out to unload logs and stack them there. Motion to approve this type of project in the park. V 0/5

b. Update on New Balance project

New Balance wants to create a 119,000.00 square foot, one story manufacturer space. All the production would be handled in this new facility. They want to keep their other building as well. It would create 200 jobs in Skowhegan. New Balance wants to bring in a new waterline. SEDC needs to have more discussion on that.

c. Update on Spinning Mill project

In the basement there will be offices. The 1st floor there will be a tasting room, 20 hotels rooms, & 44 apartments on the 2nd & 3rd & half on 4th floor. No public parking unless you live or work there.

6. Items by the Members

7. Economic & Community Development Office Items

Jeff Hewett said there was a donation check to SEDC for \$100.00 from public charity. Hunter Clarke stoped into the office and is interested in coming on to the SEDC board, he has filled out an application.

Meeting adjourned at 10:29 am.