

**September 13, 2023**  
**Berlin Economic Development Authority Meeting**  
**Berlin City Hall – Council Chambers**

**Present were:** Vice Chair Peter Higbee, Dick Huot, Andre Duchesne, Dick Eastman, and Amber Bachner, Paul Robitaille

**Excused were:** Steve Halle and Bobby Hill

**Others Present:** Pam Laflamme, Director of Strategic Initiatives; Dan Whittet

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting was called to order at City Hall at 5:30 PM.

**Approval of July 2023 meeting minutes**

**Mr. Robitaille made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 2023 meeting as presented. Mr. Eastman seconded the motion. So moved, the motion passed with all in favor.**

**Financial Report**

Ms. Laflamme did a brief summary of the financials – finance is doing yearend summaries, so we won't have financials to review until the next meeting, however as very little has been spent there is no change in our economic position.

**Economic Development Strategy**

The group continued to discuss and brainstorm about what we'd like to see on our website. There was a long list of things to add to the site, ways to style it, make it welcoming and bring people in. It was noted Amber Bachner needs to be added to the board list on the new site. Different photos were suggested, wording, links and resources. Ms. Laflamme will start working with Town Square to make these updates. It was mentioned we should highlight a few businesses to start and get someone to do short video testimonials. The board has already voted to spend funds on this activity.

**Other**

None

**Member Comments**

Mr. Huot mentioned work being done related to the region related to OHRV recreation. It was suggested we could link this to our website. Mr. Huot also wanted to get more clarity about the role of this board as it related to housing from the City Attorney.

**Public Comments**

Mr. Whittet mentioned that he still feels that working toward a LEED designation for the City would be a selling point for developers as we work to move the City in a forward direction.

### **Nonpublic**

Mr. Huot made a motion to go in to Nonpublic Session per RSA 91-A:3, II (d) Land Matters, and seconded by Mr. Duchesne, roll call vote was taken, motion passed.

Mr. Eastman made a motion to exit nonpublic session per RSA 91-A:3, II (d) Land Matters seconded by Ms. Bachner. A roll call vote was taken, the motion passed.

Land Matters were discussed, no votes were taken.

### **Other**

Mr. Eastman asked about the RAISE project and whether there was a backup plan should Burgess close. There are options for alternative heat sources should the biomass plant actually close. He also asked that everyone follow what was going related to BlueSource and the forestland that will not be harvested due to carbon credits.

### **Adjourn**

**Mr. Eastman made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Huot seconded the motion. So moved, the motion passed unanimously.**