

*Draft*  
**MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
PORTSMOUTH ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**  
October 4, 2024      7:30 AM- 9:00 AM

**Members Present:** Chair Tom Watson, Vice Chair Sarah Lachance, Anne Weidman, Anna Howard, Jacob Lahoux, Ben VanCamp; Bob Marchewka Andrew Ward; Everett Eaton, Jen Scumaci, Assistant Mayor Joanna Kelley

**Absent:** City Councilor Vince Lombardi, Phil Cohen, Assistant City Manager Sean Clancy

**City Staff:** City Manager Karen Conard

---

*Chair Watson* called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

Motion to accept the minutes of the September meeting with no changes made by *Vice Chair Lachance*, seconded by *Commissioner Howard*. Motion passed unanimously.

Business Support Working Group update: *Commissioner Ward*

- The proposed memo to City Council was pre-distributed and reviewed by the full EDC.
- Edits were proposed by *Commissioner Marchewka* and *Vice Chair Lachance* for inclusion in the final document.
- Motion to forward edited memo to Mayor and City Council for October 21<sup>st</sup> City Council meeting made by *Commissioner Marchewka* and seconded by *Commissioner Weidman*.
- Motion passed unanimously.

EDC representative (Commissioner Eaton) Citizen representative (Commissioner Weidman) reported on Market Square Master Plan working group meeting. Highlights of the consultant's findings and considerations were shared. The EDC was advised that a public meeting has been scheduled for Monday November 4<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 8pm at the Portmoputyh Public Library.

Economic Resiliency Working Group update: *Commissioner Weidman*

Via, a micro transit company made a presentation to the EDC based on their national (and international) model. The presentation was comprehensive and concluded with three examples of servicing Portsmouth either in certain segments or as a whole. Via stressed that they provide the software/communication platform as well as vehicles and drivers which can stand alone or connect with existing fixed route transit services. The full presentation as well as the robust Q & A session are included in the meeting recording.

Chamber Update – *Ben VanCamp*

- October 21<sup>st</sup> 12:00-1:00 pm District 1 Congressional candidate session scheduled (see Chamber website for details)

City Council Update – *City Manager Conard*

- Gateway Overlay District zoning proposal is moving forward to 2<sup>nd</sup> reading (October 21<sup>st</sup>)
- The revaluation process is on-going with a presentation from the City Assessor scheduled for the October 21<sup>st</sup> City Council Meeting

Public Comment: N/A

Motion to adjourn made by *Commissioner Eaton*, seconded by *Commissioner Marchewka*.  
Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am.

***As always, a full recording of this meeting is available on the EDC web page.***

Submitted by,

*Sean Clancy*

Assistant City Manager for Economic & Community Development