



The Corporation of the Town of Tillsonburg  
Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting

January 12, 2021  
7:30 a.m.  
Electronic Meeting

## MINUTES

**Present:** Cedric Tomico, Councillor Gilvesy, Jesse Goossens, Lisa Gilvesy, Randy Thornton, Mayor Molnar, Suzanne Renken, Andrew Burns, Lindsay Morgan-Jacko

**Staff:** Kyle Pratt, Chief Administrative Officer; Cephas Panschow, Development Commissioner; Laura Pickersgill, Legislative Services Coordinator

**Regrets:** Collette Takacs, Steve Spanjers, Kirby Heckford, Jeff VanRybroeck

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 a.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

Resolution #1

Moved by: Deb Gilvesy

Seconded by: Cedric Tomico

THAT the Agenda as prepared for the Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting of January 12, 2021, be adopted.

Carried

**3. Adoption of Previous Minutes**

Resolution #2

Moved by: Suzanne Renken

Seconded by: Cedric Tomico

THAT the Minutes as prepared for the Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting of December 8, 2020, be adopted.

Carried

**4. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest declared.

**5. Closed Session**

Resolution #3

Moved by: Lisa Gilvesy

Seconded by: Randy Thornton

THAT the Economic Development Committee move into closed session to discuss:

-a proposed or pending acquisition of land by the Town  
Carried

## **6. General Business & Reports**

### **6.1 Monthly Projects Update Report**

Cephas provided an overview of the Monthly Projects Update.

Cephas and Suzanne will connect offline regarding potential inclusion of Systemair in post-secondary education enhancements.

### **6.2 Tillsonburg Hydro Inc.**

No updates

### **6.3 Town Hall Task Force**

Kyle noted that the Committee met last year and the planning worksheet is currently being updated.

### **6.4 Physician Recruitment & Retention Committee**

The next meeting is scheduled for February 4. It was noted that \$35,000 for physician recruitment was passed in the 2021 budget.

### **6.5 Community Strategic Plan**

Boulevard Strategy Group appeared as a delegation to Council last evening to introduce the launch of the strategic plan project. Kyle noted that the next steps include engaging Senior Leadership Team members and Council members through one-on-one interviews. Kyle also noted that there will be opportunities for public engagement upcoming

## **7. Community Organization Updates**

### **7.1 Downtown Business Improvement Association**

#### **7.1.1 BIA Report ED01-01**

There were no questions received regarding this report.

### **7.2 Tillsonburg District Chamber of Commerce**

Suzanne noted that there will be an economic outlook session held on February 24 at 12:00 p.m. The online food bank drive ended up with \$1,460 in donations received. There will be upcoming webinars and mentorship programs in partnership with the other Oxford County Chambers of Commerce and Community Futures Oxford.

### **7.3 Tillsonburg District Real Estate Board**

#### **7.3.1 January 2021 Commercial Listings**

#### **7.3.2 December 2020 Statistics**

Lindsay noted that the year over year average sale price was up by 26% which was well above the national average of sale prices for 2020. It was noted that predictions for 2021 indicate that inventory will remain low and prices will

continue to rise. It was suggested that the buyers are coming from various areas including buyers from the GTA, local and from smaller cities. It was suggested that sellers leaving the area be asked as to why they are selling and relocating. Lindsay to look into getting statistics from Hayhoe Homes. It was encouraged that new residents be identified as a group for engagement in the strategic plan.

Randy Thornton left the meeting at 8:34 a.m.

#### **8. Round Table**

Staff will circulate an interesting article from the Cape Breton Post.

The Tillsonburg news office is no longer located in Town since the merge of Norfolk and the Tillsonburg newspaper.

The virtual ROMA conference will be held on January 25-26, 2021. Mayor Molnar will be present representing Oxford County and will be providing emphasis on local initiatives such as the short line rail.

Council approved the 2021 business plan and budget yesterday. There will be a net reduction in the 2021 budget. The water and waste water rates have been reduced for 2021.

#### **9. Next Meeting**

February 9, 2021 at 7:30 a.m.

#### **10. Adjournment**

Resolution #4

Moved by: Cedric Tomico

Seconded by: Andrew Burns

THAT the January 12, 2021 Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

Carried