

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



Tuesday, June 11, 2024
12:00 PM

Thompson Goossens Accountants Boardroom
21 Oxford Street, Tillsonburg

ATTENDANCE: Suzanne Renken
Dane Willson
Councillor Bob Parsons
Deb Gilvesy, Mayor
Lisa Gilvesy
Andrew Burns
Randy Thornton
Gurvir Hans
Randi-Lee Bain
Jesse Goossens
Kirby Heckford
Mark Renaud, Executive Director, Tillsonburg BIA

Regrets: Steve Spanjers

Staff: Cephas Panschow, Development Commissioner
Margaret Puhr, Administrative Assistant

Regrets: Kyle Pratt, Chief Administrative Officer
Laura Pickersgill, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution # 1

Moved By: Councillor Parsons

Seconded By: Suzanne Renken

THAT the Agenda as prepared for the Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting of Tuesday, June 11, 2024, be adopted.

Carried

3. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

No disclosures of pecuniary interest were declared.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolution # 2

Moved By: Randi-Lee Bain

Seconded By: Suzanne Renken

THAT the minutes of the Economic Development Advisory Committee of May 14, 2024, be approved.

Carried

5. Presentations

5.1 Ingersoll Boundary Expansion

M. Graves presented the Town of Ingersoll's recent boundary adjustment process of approximately 1,600 acres. It was recommended that when approaching boundary adjustment proposals that advantages for both parties involved be highlighted in the proposal. It was suggested that taxation sharing is very important when benefitting both sides. The importance of building respect, collaboration and participation when acquiring lands was discussed.

Opportunity was provided for members to ask questions.

Resolution # 3

Moved By: Mark Renaud

Seconded By: Randy Thornton

THAT the Chair of the Economic Development Advisory Committee requests to present at a future meeting of Council to discuss potential boundary expansion options for the Town of Tillsonburg with associated

next steps along with the infrastructure upgrades and other impacts an expansion would require, such as adjustments to: water, sewer, roads, transportation options and the Tillsonburg airport.

Carried

6. General Business and Reports

6.1 Monthly Activity Update

C. Panschow provided an update on the monthly activity update.

Opportunity was provided for members to ask questions.

Resolution # 4

Moved By: Jesse Goossens

Seconded By: Randy Thornton

THAT the Economic Development Advisory Committee recommends that video communication be prepared and shared with the community regarding the Bridge Street Re-imagination project by the Bridge Street Task Force to help the public better understand the project.

Carried

Resolution # 5

Moved By: Suzanne Renken

Seconded By: Kirby Heckford

THAT the Economic Development Advisory Committee recommends to Council that a more robust social media policy be established to provide more proactive communications, particularly to counter inaccuracies on social media, as possible through existing or new resources.

Carried

6.2 ARU Video

C. Panschow will circulate the link to the ARU video after the meeting.

7. Boundary Adjustment

7.1 Overview of Process and Land Use Planning Considerations Related to Municipal Boundary Adjustments for Settlement Expansion Purposes

This item was provided for information.

8. Community Organization Updates

8.1 Downtown Business Improvement Association

8.1.1 Report from BIA Chair

M. Renaud provided an overview of the report and the agenda for the upcoming Turtlefest event.

8.2 Tillsonburg District Chamber of Commerce

8.2.1 Report from Executive Director

S. Renken provided an overview of the report and introduced Ashley Edwards as the new CEO for the Chamber.

8.3 Woodstock, Ingersoll, Tillsonburg and Area Association of Realtors

8.3.1 Monthly Statistics

These statistics were provided as information.

9. Round Table

An overview of the Ontario Government's SWODF funding announcement on June 10 was provided. There were four announcements across Oxford County with one being Armtec's new facility in Tillsonburg. Originally, it was anticipated that another local manufacturing announcement would be included, but it was pushed back to another date. As an aside, Armtec is still ramping up their hiring and looking for more employees.

The Cirque Italia event was very successful.

The Multi-Service Centre Job Fair hosted 248 job seekers, 25 employers and received positive feedback.

The entrepreneurial pop-up event was informative however participation remained low.

10. Next Meeting

July 9, 2024 12:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment

Resolution # 6

Moved By: Kirby Heckford

Seconded By: Andrew Burns

THAT the Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting of Tuesday, June 11, 2024 be adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Carried