

Randolph Economic Development Council
Minutes of the SEPTEMBER 14, 2015 Meeting

Attending: Jason Aldous, Julie Iffland, John Lutz, Marjorie Ryerson, Michael Tragner, and Joe Woodin.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm in Conference Room A of the Town Hall. Chair Michael Tragner presided at the meeting. No public members to be heard attended this meeting.

The minutes of the August 3, 2015 meeting were approved. 4-0-3

The Council again discussed we as an Economic Development group should take a position of the current Exit 4 Development issue. Again, each attending member of the Council had an opportunity to voice their opinion on the subject. John Lutz voiced his opinion that any statement made by the Council should be positive and specific. Julie Iffland shared her experiences with the evolution of the Exit 4 Plan and development review. Joe Woodin offered to write a first draft of a statement for Council review and consideration at our October meeting.

Council members were then given an update **Initiative A**, the project is to create a **Guide to Business and Permitting in Randolph**. Julie Iffland, reported that additional information had been received but that there is still more to be done.

Next discussed was **Initiative B – “Creating an Inventory of Assets.”** Michael Tragner has written a “Second Letter” which will be mailed to businesses and organizations who did not respond to the original survey.

Council members had received a copy of Randolph’s current tax stabilization policy. The group discussion brought to the fore that Randolph has made very few tax stabilization agreements. Two Council members expressed their opinion that this could be a better used tool for economic development. It was suggested that we check with Claremont, NH to learn how they had used tax stabilization to good advantage.

In a review of Town current economic development news, Council members shared that a new sheepskin tanning facility was moving to Randolph. Also, the Playhouse has begun shifting the ownership of their building to the Coop which has been successfully operating the theater the past two years. And that the Vermont Computer Cooperative, on Merchants Row, has been holding well-attended evening and weekend computer games in their retail facility.

The next meeting of the Council will take place on October 5 in Conference Room A of the Town Hall at 5:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by John Lutz

