

**MINUTES  
ESSEX COUNTY  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
September 1, 2022**

A meeting of the Economic Development Authority of Essex County was held on the 1st day of September, 2022, with the following present:

Present:

William A. Croxton, Chairman  
Tim Smith – Treasurer  
David Holt  
Jamie Segar  
Ronnie Sidney

Also present:

Hill Wellford  
John Harvey  
Curt Smith  
Kay Carlton  
Chris Rhodes

Absent:

Lisa Andrews, Vice-Chairman  
James Acors

RE: CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Croxton called the meeting to order. A quorum was met.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Croxton asked for the approval of the revised minutes from the August 4, 2022 meeting. There was a motion and a second. All Ayes.

RE: TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Smith reported that the checking account currently has \$4,725.36. In our 12-month CD, we have \$2,580.20. Our 13-26 month CDs total \$30,962.46. Our total holdings are \$38,268.02. There is a one pending application for a Façade grant. There was a motion to delete the 12-month CD and move the money into the checking account to cover the Façade Grant. it was seconded and approved.

Curt Smith – Middle Peninsula Planning Commission

Curt Smith is the Deputy Director of the Middle Peninsula Planning Commission. The Raise Grant was a national grant that Tappahannock-Essex received. They are looking at the public working waterfronts that warrant a modernization. This is a phased project. It is match-free \$1,500,000 for Essex County. It does set the stage to reapply for up to \$25,000,000. We are going to work with a consultant to utilize

real time GPS data to get traffic patterns. This a land/water project and will look at the bare minimum projects to build from. Then we will ask stakeholders what is needed to accommodate the growing needs of Tappahannock/Essex. This will allow for shovel ready plans.

Chairman Croxton thanked Mr. Smith for the work that he put into the grant.

It was asked if the grant was written vaguely enough to look at the different sites such as 'LaGrange' and fix the entrance on something like that. Mr. Smith said the way they wrote it was that it was anticipated it to go through a stakeholder/owner driven ideas so that they can see what can be done.

The MPPC also looked into doing their own dredging by purchasing their own dredge through a grant.

### New Business

#### Fitz Cabinetry and Design

Elizabeth Fowler came with a Façade Grant Application. They do remodeling jobs within an hour's drive of Tappahannock. They would like to put a mural on the Cross Street and Marsh Street side of their building. The first will be on the Marsh Street side the second on the Cross Street, which was designed by the daughter of the owner. They are holding a grand opening on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### Main Street

There is a three-step process. The four families that were displaced by the fire were found housing and received furniture, which was phase one. Phase two will be to help the landowners and the business owners. Anything left, if the lawyers say it is appropriate, TMS could invest back into the two buildings that were affected for their façade.

Winterfest will be held over two weekends. The parade will be December 4<sup>th</sup> with the tree lighting which they hope to have at the museum across from the DAW Theatre. The DAW Foundation hopes to have had a facelift on the DAW by then. Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> will be Winterfest from 11 am-4 pm where it is planned for Duke and Prince Streets where they will have something for everyone's interests.

#### Wawa

The Ground Breaking will be September 21<sup>st</sup>. The refrigeration supply chain was the hold up.

#### Old Business

The façade grant is on the website. Meeting minutes will also be posted on the site.

#### RE: NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 2022.

#### RE: ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn and seconded. All Ayes

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Chairman of the Board, Bill Croxton