

APPROVED

09/22/2020

Town of Norridgewock

TIF Advisory Committee Minutes

August 25, 2020

Chair John Malek called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM through Zoom, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §403-A. Committee. Committee members John Malek, Brandi Ireland, Jessie Everett, Sallie Wilder, Ruth Keister, and Becky Ketchum were present. Also, in attendance for all or parts of the meeting was Town Manager Richard LaBelle.

We reviewed the last minutes from both prior meetings. Brandi made a motion to approve the July 21, 2020 meeting minutes. Sallie seconded; all were in favor.

Becky noted that we should put Special Meeting on the minutes from August 4, 2020. Sallie made a motion to accept the August 4, 2020 minutes. Ruth seconded; all were in favor.

We discussed the application that came in for the façade program. Everett's Tire wants money to re-pave at his business. John mentioned he isn't sure how hot topping will improve the appearance of downtown; we all agreed with him. Becky mentioned that she remembered when he purchased the property, he was talking about doing something with the fence along with the hot topping. Depending on what he chose to do, this would enhance the appearance to remove the wire fence. Ruth made a motion to deny the request, due to lack of impact. Jessie seconded; all were in favor.

Richard provided us with some lighting options. There were some questions about how bright the lights will be, what color pole we want, and how big the base should be. Brandi made a motion to accept the style of option #1. Ruth seconded; all were in favor. Richard will get us some pole color options and get some additional information for the next meeting.

The Somerset COVID Relief Grant awarded \$5,000 to our Norridgewock businesses, they approved 4 out of the 8 who applied. They came back to us asking if we would give \$5,000, so that they could use other funds for additional applicants outside of Norridgewock. Richard explained to them that we were only giving money to Norridgewock businesses and we submitted this with the expectation of them matching some amount; he was disappointed as to how this turned out. In the end, the TIF Committee is allocating \$4,000 and the grant program will give \$1,000. This awards each approved business (Quimby Child Care Center, Triple D Redemption, Norridgewock Hair Studio, and Hardy's Motorsports) a check for \$1,250 each. There were two Norridgewock businesses that submitted applications too late to qualify for the grant: Everett's Tire and Fredericks Dar-I-Whip. Richard ran then through the same rubric the COVID Relief Grant used and they would have both been approved. Everett's Tire scored 39

points and Fredericks Dar-I-Whip scored 31 points. Sallie made a motion to extend the grant under the same guidelines as the COVID Relief Grant and we will grant \$1,250 to those two additional businesses this one time only. Jessie seconded; all were in favor.

Richard mentioned there will be 2 landmark signs placed at each end of the bridge directing people to Sophie May. John mentioned having a kiosk at the boat launch. This would have a map of the town showing where local businesses are located. Maybe we would update this annually showing any changes. Richard will get us costs for the next meeting.

There were many new ideas on how the TIF Committee could improve the town. Sallie: Ice Skating Rink, Swimming facility with picnic tables, Tennis Court, walking/biking /snowshoeing trails, improve Emery Square.

Becky: Install sidewalks that lead from town into the park, buy the wreath building and have artists come in and set up shop. Ruth mentioned the wreath building was \$80,000 a year ago.

John: Mural on the building in Emery Square. Richard mentioned that he has been in contact with the building's owner and he wants to repair a rotten sill before any improvements are made.

Richard: The Board of Selectman have been talking about purchasing a property in town with TIF funds. More to come on this, if they wish to advance.

The TIF Committee raised about \$3,000 for school supplies for Mill Stream Elementary. This is in addition to a large number of supply donations that were made. Brandi has been working diligently to get the items the school needs and we are all going to bring these items to the school on Thursday (8/27) to distribute them to teachers. We are also going to give each teacher a \$50 gift card to Wal-Mart for things they may need in the future. We have extra money left over that we will keep and add to. We will circle back with the school once they open to see if they need any other items.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 22, 2020, at 4:00 PM.

John Malek adjourned the meeting at 5:46PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessie Everett

Secretary, TIF Committee