

**Town of Norridgewock
TIF Advisory Committee Minutes
January 24, 2023**

Co-Chair Becky Ketchum called the meeting to order at 4:05PM in the Conference Room at the Town Office. Committee members Jessie Everett, Brandi Ireland, Ruth Keister, Becky Ketchum, John Malek, and Sallie Wilder were present. Also, in attendance for all or part of the meeting was Town Manager Richard LaBelle, Deanna Meservie, and Devon Meservie.

Ruth made motion to accept the minutes as printed. Becky seconded, all were in favor.

Devon Meservie came to explain his Façade application. He runs a repair shop in town called 3D Equipment. They repair off-road equipment. Devon passed us out pictures for before and after of what has already been completed on his project. Because Drew was unable to attend, he sent a message for us to read. Drew supports supporting existing businesses in town. His only concern was that there were no cost breakdowns, but that will come later once invoices are submitted. All work has been completed except last 2 lines for exterior lighting and electrical. Nickerson did all the landscaping. Becky is concerned that much of the work is already completed and is questioning the lighting quote, as it seems high from an estimate she recently obtained for the Grange. John explained since the customer has already invested his funds into the project, it is within our Statement of Purpose. Ruth made a motion to recommend approving the application as presented, in a reimbursement amount of up to the maximum of \$25,000. Jessie seconded, all were in favor.

There was no old business to review so we moved to Other Business.

John has been working on a grant from the Maine Community Foundation to cover the cost of for a mural in our public square, including the artistry, installation, and landscaping. Funding for the project will be private and/or possibly public funding. He might put together a survey asking the townspeople their opinions of this mural. What should it have on it, say, etc.? The grant scoring gives you credit for using local artists. John reached out to someone in Mercer, but they weren't interested. He has some others in mind for the project. Becky is concerned this might take away from the historical panel we have, but John mentioned that the other panel is more factual and this would be art. This could possibly fit into TIF by being a creative idea for economic development. The grant application is due by 2/15. He will fill us in on more once that is done.

Ruth asked what was happening with the projects at the park- Gazebo needing repair, kayaks, cameras, etc. Cameras are coming in the spring and then the Gazebo will be looked at.

Sallie mentioned a public pool and broadband. Richard explained liability might be an issue for the pool, but broadband is coming and all paid for we just need by private entities. There is just a wait for the utility construction crews to get to us, possibly 24 months away. Not a quick fix, but it will be no cost to the town—and the funding source doesn't seem to speed up the construction schedule.

Becky adjourned meeting at 4:50PM.

Next meeting scheduled for 2/28/23 at 4:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessie Everett
Secretary, TIF Committee