



RUTLAND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
CITY OF RUTLAND  
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Regular Meeting / October 27, 2015  
Minutes

**Attendance:** Dave Cooper, Barbara Spaulding, Brennan Duffy, Israel Mac, Stephanie Romeo, Ed Clark, Mike Gauthier and Chris Ettori.

**Absent:** Wendy Wilton.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 8:03 am.
- II. Agenda Additions/Deletions – None.
- III. Ed moved to approve the minutes of October 13, 2015. Mike seconded. Motion was approved.
- IV. No one from the public was in attendance to address the Board.
- V. Ed moved to authorize Dave to sign the warrant for payment of Fund 800 expenses totaling \$2,378.58 and recommend to the Board of Finance payment of Fund 100 expenses totaling \$550.00. Mike seconded. Motion was approved.
- VI. Barbara provided the following grant updates:

2015 VTGFOA Fall Workshop – Barbara attended the Government Finance Officers Association workshop on October 20 with the City Treasurer and Assistant City Treasurer. The RRA's grant administration appears to be in compliance with the Best Practice OMB Uniform Guidance issued by the GFOA. However, the City needs to establish a grant policy, similar to that of the RRA, and Barbara volunteered to work on this project.

Neighborhood Strategy Study – The final public hearing for this planning grant will be held Nov. 2 at 6:45 pm. Closeout of the grant is Dec. 31, 2015.

RCPCC Education Facility Grant – The required public hearing has been posted for Nov. 16 at 6:30. Brennan explained that the Aldermen had taken the RRA's recommendation to go forward with the RCPCC project. Barbara will be meeting with Caprice Hover on Thursday to discuss the application and filing process.

Hickory Street Community Center – The final hearing for the implementation grant will be held Nov. 16 at 6:45 pm. Kevin Loso, Executive Director of the Rutland Housing Authority will be present to discuss the project and the benefits met.

VII. Brennan provided the following project updates:

77 Grove Street – Suggestions for marketing and re-use options for the building being vacated by GMP were discussed.

133 Forest Street – The prospective new property owner has received the final state permit to move forward. The tax stabilization agreement has been approved by BOA and will be implemented once the closing has occurred.

34 North Main Street – Discussion occurred on status of the project and potential complications.

Web Portal /Start up in a Day – The Aldermen have been asked to approve signing a contract with Collaboration 133 for the start-up portal project. The request was sent to the General Committee and Alderman Bloomer would like to have the project incorporated into a bigger city website upgrade. A meeting of the general committee to discuss the issue is scheduled for Wednesday at 5:30pm.

Evelyn Street Planning Grant – Brennan sent Brixmor, via Larry Pope, a number of relevant documents related to the Evelyn St. conceptual design and requested their support, in the form of a letter, for redeveloping the Evelyn Street property as required for a VCDP planning grant.

Vermont Development Conference – Brennan will be attending the conference next week in Burlington with a booth promoting Rutland business opportunities as proposed in the BIAP marketing plan.

10 Cleveland Ave – Discussion regarding a fire last night at the former dress factory. Brennan discussed his attempts to get VT Dept. of Health to provide an update on where the asbestos testing of the cellarhole debris stands.

TIGER Grant - \$10 million western rail corridor funding was approved for rail enhancements that will eventually allow passenger rail to Burlington. Discussion on how this could benefit Rutland's economy and housing markets.

VIII. DRP Update: Stephanie discussed concerns from the previous DRP Board meeting regarding their perceived lack of involvement in the Evelyn Street conceptual design. Discussion followed on DRP's appropriate role in planning of large scale projects, improving future communications between the boards, and the lack of a DRP liaison at RRA meetings. Brennan informed that at the request of DRP an evening meeting to discuss Evelyn St. planning was scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup> but only two of their board members attended. It was requested that he make another presentation on the Evelyn St. Concept at the DRP's November meeting and Ed Clark offered to attend as well to provide insight to the DRP on how the current concept was developed out of the Creative Economy and past public meetings. There was further discussion on

10/27/15

DRP compliance with the Service Agreement and apparent confusion on their end regarding whether an August meeting, in which a new board member was elected, had occurred with a quorum as there were no minutes associated with the meeting. It was suggested that DRP be required to comply with VT's open meeting laws in the future to ensure transparency.

IX. New Business.

The treasurer's report for the quarter ended 9/30/15 was reviewed.

X. Chris moved to adjourn. Stephanie seconded. Motion was approved. The meeting ended at 9:00 am.

These minutes approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

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Israel Mac, Secretary