

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE PORTSMOUTH  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

August 2, 2024      7:30 AM- 9:00 AM

**Members Present:** Chair Tom Watson, Vice Chair Sarah Lachance, Anne Weidman, City Councilor Vince Lombardi, , , Anna Howard, Phil Cohen, Jen Scumaci, Jacob Lahoux, Ben VanCamp

**Absent:** Everett Eaton, Bob Marchewka Andrew Ward Assistant Mayor Joanna Kelley

**City Staff:** Assistant City Manager Sean Clancy, City Manager Karen Conard

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*Chair Watson* called the meeting to order at 7:35 am.

Motion to accept the minutes of the July meeting with no changes made by *Councilor Lombardi*, seconded by *Vice Chair Lachance*. Motion passed unanimously.

Economic Development Office Report: *S. Clancy*

- The Market Square Master Plan process continues to move forward with a focus on seeking public input.
- The Parking Utilization Study group is wrapping up it work and a future needs report from the consultant will be presented to City Council in September/October
- The Novocure headquarters tour is scheduled for August 7<sup>th</sup> , 3:00-3:45 pm

Chamber Update – *Ben VanCamp*

- The Chamber has scheduled mid-year tourism check-in (8/9/24) as anecdotal information indicates lower hotel occupancy and lower retail and tourist attraction sales.
- Tickets are on sale for street.life! 2024 @ Port City (Pease) September 5, 2024.

City Council Update – *Councilor Lombardi*

- The City Council continues to focus on the priorities of affordable housing and sustainability initiatives
- There will be a working session with City Councilors to kick-off the annual CIP process prior to the August 19<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

Pease Development Authority – Presentation of updates and initiatives (separate document), followed by Q&A session with the *EDC Commissioners*.

Public Comment: N/A

Motion to adjourn made by *Vice Chair Lachance*, seconded by *Commissioner Howard*. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 am.

Due to the PDA location of this meeting; there is no recording of the proceedings.

Submitted by,

*Sean Clancy*

Assistant City Manager for Economic & Community Development