

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NORFOLK  
Meeting Minutes

The Economic Development Authority of the City of Norfolk called, and held, its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 12:02 PM, 4th floor of the Dominion Tower, 999 Waterside Drive, Suite 415 Norfolk, Virginia 23510.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Jeffrey Brooke – Chair  
Morgan Whayland – Vice Chair (Virtual)  
Kim Brown  
Jaeson Dandalides  
John Garrett  
Richard Ottinger  
Carter Smith  
Henri Patten  
Antonio Sisco

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Sean Washington – Executive Director  
Michael Paris – Secretary-Treasurer  
Dawn Ryan – Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

**COUNSEL PRESENT:**

Barry Hunter – Kaufman & Canoles, P.C.

**ABSENT DIRECTORS/STAFF:**

Simon H. Scott – Director  
George Polizos- Director

**GUESTS:**

Patrick Roberts- City of Norfolk- City Manager  
Mike Roggow – City of Norfolk – Department of Finance  
Mia Byrd-Wilson – Department of Economic Development  
Brittney Hatcher- Department of Economic Development  
Nikki Southall – Department of Economic Development  
Nihal Vasty- Department of Economic Development  
Robert Sharak- Department of Economic Development

## **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Chairman Brooke called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM and thanked staff and Directors present for attending. After it was confirmed that Director Whayland's voice could be heard by all Directors present at the meeting location, Director Sisco moved to allow Director Whayland to participate remotely. Director Patten seconded the motion, which motion passed unanimously (Vote 7-0-0). Director Whayland's request to participate remotely was due to a work matter: her company required her to travel for meetings. Director Whayland participated remotely from Richmond, VA. This was the first time Director Whayland has participated remotely for a personal reason in the calendar year 2024.

Director Brown joined the meeting at 12:06pm.

## **MINUTES**

Chairman Brooke asked the Directors to review the minutes of the December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. There being no comments or corrections, Chairman Brooke entertained a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Director Sisco moved to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Director Smith. The motion was unanimously approved. (Vote 9-0-0).

## **AGENDA OVERVIEW**

Mr. Washington introduced the City Manager, Patrick Roberts, who addressed the Board and staff. He emphasized the importance of continued communication between the City and the EDA. Chairman Brooke inquired about the intentions for Military Circle Mall, asking if the City Manager could be more available for discussions. The City Manager said that communication through Mr. Washington is always the best way to communicate with his office. Director Sisco said that he was hopeful to see Military Circle Mall as a family center again.

## **DIRECTORS REPORT**

Mr. Washington provided updates on downtown construction and projects (Attachment #1). Mr. Washington also informed the Directors of the Terry Richards interview for Norfolk Works which highlighted

the work done to assist residents with employment opportunities throughout the City. He also reported that the Department planned on performing a mid-year review of the Strategic Plan.

**NEW BUSINESS / UPDATES**

Mr. Washington then invited Mr. Sharak to speak on the updates related to the PIDP Grant. Mr. Sharak noted that November and December calls were completed, and the parties are currently working through the checklist for Historic Preservation. Current focus is on NEPA completion.

Mr. Washington and Mr. Paris reviewed financials and provided details on the completed audit, noting that it was a clean audit (Attachment #2).

Mr. Washington asked Ms. Southall to provide information on the status of round two of the grants under the Commercial Corridor Pilot Program. She reported that there were 62 applications with 36 being fully completed. The Committee recommended approval of 11 applicants, 9 of which were property owners and 2 of which were Tenants. Director Brooke asked the members to review the resolution (Attachment #3) and entertained a motion for approval. Director Ottinger moved to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Director Brown. The motion was unanimously approved. (9-0-0).

Mr. Washington then introduced the Rosna Theater Resolution (Attachment #4), approving the EDA executing a contract for the renovation of the Theater and donating the property to the City. Mr. Washington noted that the construction contract would be assigned to the City. Director Sisco moved to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Director Brown. The motion was unanimously approved. (9-0-0).

Chairman Brooke then adjourned the meeting at 1:04 PM.

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_ 

Attachments:

- 1. Director’s Report – Presentation
- 2. Financial Report/Statement
- 3. Commercial Corridor Resolution
- 4. Rosna Theater Resolution