

# 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 7th, 2026, at 12:02 P.M., 999 Waterside Drive, Suite 400, Norfolk, Virginia 23510.

### **DIRECTOR'S PRESENT:**

Morgan Whayland - Chairman  
Carter Smith – Vice Chairman  
Jaeson Dandalides  
John Garrett  
Michael Hull  
Richard Ottinger  
Henri Patten  
George Polizos  
Simon Scott  
Keith Warren

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Sean Washington - Executive Director  
Mike Paris - Secretary-Treasurer  
Robert Sharak – Assistant executive Director  
Dawn Ryan – Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

### **COUNSEL PRESENT:**

Barry Hunter – Kaufman & Canoles, P.C.

### **GUESTS:**

Mike Roggow - Department of Finance  
Larry Pendleton – Planning Commission  
Mia Byrd - Department of Economic Development  
Delk Koolman - Department of Economic Development  
Britney Hatcher - Department of Economic Development  
Malijah Rubin - Department of Economic Development  
Nikki Southall - Department of Economic Development  
Carlisle Morrisette - Department of Economic Development  
Amy Diggins - Department of Economic Development  
Pete Schrider - Department of Economic Development  
Steven Meyes – Syncon  
Key White – Whiting-Turner  
Ashleigh Newman–Twyman – Whiting-Turner  
Scott Guirlinger – Hexagon Asset Lifecycle Intelligence

## **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Chairwoman Whayland called the meeting to order at 12:02 P.M. and thanked all the Directors present for attending and for electing her and Vice Chairman Smith to their new roles for the Board.

Chairwoman Whayland gave some opening remarks before the meeting started.

Chairwoman Whayland asked the Directors to review the minutes for this December meeting. There being no corrections regarding the minutes, Director Garrett moved to approve the minutes which motion was seconded by Director Patten and approved with one abstention from Director Scott. (Vote: 9-0-1).

## **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Chairwoman Whayland turned over the meeting to Mr. Paris who presented his financial update. (Attachment #1). Chairwoman Whayland thanked Mr. Paris for the update.

## **DIRECTORS REPORT**

Chairwoman Whayland then recognized Mr. Washington for his report to the Board, which report is attached. (Attachment #2).

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Washington requested Mr. Paris to report on the EDA Financial Statements and audit review. Mr. Paris reported that the EDA had a clean audit with the help of the City's Finance team to put together the statements. Mr. Paris note and explained the decrease in net position. Mr. Paris asked the Directors to review the materials and e-mail him with any questions or concerns so he could address them at the February meeting prior to approval of the Audit. (Attachment #3)

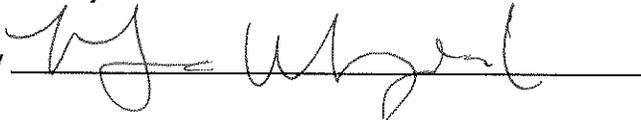
Mr. Washington then asked Mr. Sharak to speak on the Port Host Community Revitalization Fund Grant/Loan and Port Infrastructure Development Programs. Mr. Sharak updated the Board as to matters relating to funding as well as to the projects and properties. Regarding the FY2026 Port Host Community Revitalization Fund grant for MiiSpec Abrasives, Mr. Sharak said EDA staff had met with the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (VADHCD) earlier on January 7, 2026, to

request that EDA be allowed to subgrant the \$500,000 awarded rather than loan the proceeds as VADHCD had required. MilSpec had indicated it was not interested in another loan. VADHCD indicated it would take the request to their leadership and get back to EDA with a reply. The Board engaged in a general discussion on the difference between loans and grants as they affected subrecipients. Regarding the Port Infrastructure Development Program, Mr. Sharak indicated he would likely bring a new MOU and Resolution to the Board next month. He indicated the documentation would be substantially the same as before, but without the offshore wind component.

#### **CLOSING**

Chairwoman Whayland made a few comments about trying to keep with tradition of one-hour meetings and thanked the Board again for her new role as Chairwoman.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 P.M.

Approved by 

Attachments:

1. Financial Report
2. Directors Report
3. EDA FY25 Financial Statements