

January 14, 2026
Berlin Economic Development Authority Meeting
Berlin City Hall

Present were: Chair Gabriella Goode, Peter Higbee, Andre Duchesne, Janet Nickerson, Dick Huot and Paul Robitaille, Richard Plourde

Excused were: Steve Halle and Dick Eastman

Others Present: Dan Whittet and Pam Laflamme, Director of Strategic Initiatives

Chair Goode opened the meeting at 5:30PM

Approval of January 2026 meeting minutes

Mr. Duchesne made a motion to approve the minutes of the January meeting as presented. Mr. Higbee seconded the motion. So moved, the motion passed with all in favor.

Financial Report

There were no financials to review, they will be available for the February meeting.

Economic Development Strategy

Recast Your City – Chair Goode shared the findings and recommendations of the final report for the Recast City Boost initiative with the board. It focuses on nine recommendations. Ms. Preuss will present her report for the public on January 22, 2025 at 6PM in the auditorium. She will be presenting remotely, but the hope is that we have people show up to have conversation and ask questions.

The Small Business Development Center will be holding a business networking event in the auditorium on February 26 at 5PM. The NH Community Loan Fund, Coos Economic Development Corporation and others will be invited to attend as resource partners.

There was a lot of conversation about the traffic patterns in downtown. There are many points of view and thoughts about what makes the most sense for both the business owners in downtown as well as the community at large. All agree that there is a desire to make downtown a destination and a gathering place. It was mentioned we do not want to lose any of our character.

It was suggested we work hard to get the word out and invite any and all stakeholders and interested parties. All members should reach out to people personally to attend.

Rite Aid Property –No updates to share at this time that were not previously shared as part of the conversation about the report. Questions were asked and answered of staff.

Nonpublic

None

Member Comments

None

Public Comments

Mr. Whittet shared his thoughts about the traffic patterns. He feels that keeping the one way traffic pattern is the best option for the growth of the downtown and to maintain the character of our downtown.

Other

None

Adjourn

Ms. Nickerson made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Mr. Duchesne. So moved, the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes taken by Pamela Laflamme