

N.F.C. DEVELOPMENT CORP.
Minutes of Meeting
Monday, September 12, 2016
City Hall Council Chambers
Niagara Falls, New York

Present: Mayor Paul Dyster
Council Member Touma
Ms. Jacqueline Henwood
Mr. Michael Hooper
Ms. Janet Markarian
Mr. Paul Parise
Mr. Chris Robins
Mr. Frank Roma
Ms. Anne Sawicki
Ms. Lee Whittaker

Absent: Council Member Grandinetti
Council Member Tompkins
Council Member Scott
Council Member Walker
Mr. Ralph Aversa
Mr. Joseph Casale
Ms. Clara Dunn
Ms. Lucy Muto
Ms. Doreen O'Connor

Staff

Present: Gail Bimont
Anthony Vilaro
Tommy Tedesco
Thomas DeSantis

Others

Present: Michael Lewis,
Chris Staionoff

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dyster at 4:10 p.m. A quorum was present.

Agenda Item #3 Approval of Minutes of Meeting held July 18, 2016

Mr. Roma made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held July 18, 2016, second was made by Ms. Whittaker. **Unanimously approved.**

Agenda Item #4 Vote to Approve Downtown Tourism Assistance Grant for Cataract Real Estate, Inc. (Phase II)

Mr. Vilardo introduced Mr. Michael Lewis who spoke about the next phase of his project at 440 Third Street. Mr. Lewis will be investing \$552,000 into the total project. Mr. Lewis purchased the property located at 440 Third Street to complement his project at 444 Third Street. As the house in the front of the property is beyond repair, he will be demolishing it to make a patio for the Third Street Eatery. He will then rehab the house in the back portion of the property to complete the project.

Mr. Parise made a motion to Approve the Downtown Tourism Assistance Grant for Cataract Real Estate, Inc. (Phase II), second was made by Ms. Markarian.

POLLED VOTE
IN FAVOR **9**
OPPOSED **0**
ABSTENTION **1** **(Mr. Hooper)**
MOTION APPROVED

Agenda Item #5 Vote to Approve Industrial Growth Program Guidelines

Mr. Vilardo reported that there is nothing in the guidelines for incentives to assist in industrial growth, i.e. startup or retaining existing businesses and/or employees. The Program funds will be capped at \$200,000 but will be tied to job creation at a rate of \$10,000 per job created. There may be a need to come back to the Board for special circumstances. Preference will be given to companies pledging to hire locally (from the City). We will have the ability to call back the loan if they are not compliant. Each grantee will have to be transparent and accountable to the NFC Staff and Board.

Mr. Robins made a motion to Approve the Industrial Growth Program Guidelines, second was made by Mr. Parise. **Unanimously approved.**

Agenda Item #6 Old Business

None

Agenda Item #14 New Business

Mr. Staionoff, the Small Business Advocate, gave an update to the Board on his activities. He helped build the new website for NFC, which is 75% complete and should have an October debut. He also built the website Fallsbiz.com. He helps out small businesses that are sent to him by the City with building websites, making videos, and marketing. He has written newspaper articles, planned business mixers, small business day, “shop local, shop small”.

Agenda Item #15 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.