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Minutes of the Suffield Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting
October 15, 2026

Members Present: John McGuire, Jeff Girard, Roger Murray, Maria Silvestri, Bob Kelly

Also Present: Chad Kuzontkoski – Economic Development Specialist, Ellie Binns – Administrative Assistant

1. Bob Kelly, acting as chairman in the absence of Gayle Demko, called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.
2. Public Input – None
3. 2027 Calendar Approval

Mr. Murray moved acceptance of the 2027 calendar which will continue the same schedule of meetings on the third Thursday of the month at 8:30 am. The motion was seconded by Mr. McGuire and passed unanimously.

4. Commission Projects Update

Mr. Kelly asked for updates on the EDC projects list. Mr. Kuzontkoski noted that he is working on the small business passports and will run it over a two-week period and have 750 passports available. The Town is also having a Trick or Treat event on the afternoon of October 29th between 2:30 and 4:30 at the Town Hall, the Library, Fire Station #1 and the Senior Center. Ms. Silvestri has been following up on the grant proposal for the Town South Green upgrade project and will be consulting with Tom Smith from Springfield Technical Community College to come up with a rendering or a plan to submit a grant application. The sites for a dog park location were discussed and the Ratley Road Fire Station will be looked into. Mr. Murray mentioned that in most towns the dog parks are run by volunteers. It was suggested that it might be coordinated by the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Kuzontkoski will look into the possibilities and check with the Fire Chief for input. Ms. Demko is working on a design for a tear off map. There was discussion about bike trail signs. Locations for these signs will be decided upon and the Public Works Director Lee Corbert will be consulted. Mr. Kuzontkoski will coordinate the ribbon cutting for the kiosk at the library and will notify commission members. Mr. Girard reported progress on the Suffield Calendar to be on the internet which he has his staff member working on. He expects to go live with it in the coming weeks. It will post events happening is Suffield. There was discussion on the picket fence to display signs on at the fire station at Ebbs Corner. The Fire Chief has been consulted and he is in agreement with it as long as it doesn't impact snow removal or visibility. Another estimate for the fence will be requested and approval will be sought from the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Mr. McGuire distributed a report on his findings from meeting with restaurant owners and made recommendations. There was also discussion about tax incentives, and forming a restaurant group to meet periodically. He will continue to pursue meetings with the restaurant owners that have not been met with yet.

5. EDC Projects Report – Chad Kuzontkoski

Mr. Kuzontkoski distributed his written report which summarized the activities in the Light Industrial, Commercial and Town Center Village District zones for the month. The report highlighted the TIF grants master plan which was initiated in 2017 is undergoing it's required 10-year update. Mountain Road Shops' new tenant Hometown Arcade will have its official ribbon cutting on 11/13.

6. Minutes – September 17, 2026 Regular Meeting

Mr. McGuire moved acceptance of the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Murray and approved unanimously.

7. Adjournment

With nothing further to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 9:31 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Ellie Binns
Recording Secretary