ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MAY 18,2022

EASPORT PORT AUTHORITY

Attendance: Michael Morse, Manuel Moreno, Kevin Raye, Jerry Morrison, Laura Stanczyk, Paul Terrill, Rayett Cooper, Chris Gardner,

Council Liaisons: Billy Boone, Jeanne Peacock, Ex Officio- Kate Devonshire

- 1. Chairman Morse called the meeting to order.
- 2. Secretary's report was read and accepted (Motion Morrison, Second Cooper)
- 3. After discussing an idea about taxing building that were underused and not on

the market the committee reached consensus that it is better "to use the carrot than the stick."

- 4. There was a short discussion of TIF's.
- 5.Catalyst buildings that were narrowed from a list of empty buildings included: Gates Fiber, The Boat School, Cobscook Resource Center, Old IGA, and the Pet Store
- 6. Kevin will write a letter to the owners of the catalyst buildings.

 Rayett suggested we ask them how we may help, are you having any problems?

 It was suggested that local realtors Caryn Vinson and Heidi Holley who specialize in renting out spaces be approached to see if the owners would consider that.
- 7. The discussion on who may be a voting member of the EDC. We wish to have out of town business owners and taxpayers with economic development interests in Eastport on the committee and be able to vote. Currently there are 3 out of town members. A motion was made to amend the city policy so the economic development committee can include voting members who

are property owners/taxpayers from out of town. (Motion Stanczyk, second Cooper) Passed

- 8. Motion to make Paul Terrill a voting member (Motion Cooper, second Stanczyk) passed
- 9.Michael Morse reported that he had written a letter of support from our committee to 2 Canadian government agencies that states Eastport supports foot ferry between Eastport and Campobello. (Motion to send the letters Rayett Cooper, second Terrill)
- 10. Paul Terrill was elected secretary of the group by acclamation.

11 Jeanne reported that Mark Wigley and Ken Burke had agreed to be on a Broadband Committee.

The next meeting will be June 27th at 1 PM at the Port Authority building.

12 Motion to adjourn R. Cooper, second Laura S. Passed