

BOROUGH OF TUCKERTON

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES: Monday – April 6, 2026

Call Meeting to Order – *Chairman Jon Miller*

Flag Salute – *Chairman Jon Miller*

Open Public Meeting Act Statement - *Secretary*

The Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Committee of the Borough of Tuckerton was hereby called to order at 5:36 PM. Notice of this meeting is in accordance with the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 (Section 10:4-10). Notice of the meeting was advertised in the Beacon and the Asbury Park Press.

Roll Call:

	Glen Best	Marcella Klein	Ken Laney	Jon Miller	Kim Sakevich	Dave Shaffer	Chuck Watson
Present				X	X	X	X
Absent	X	X	X				

Also, In Attendance:

	Mayor Sue Marshall	Councilman Ron Peterson
Present		X
Absent	X	

Approval of Minutes – March 2, 2026:

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the March 2, 2026 minutes; the motion was second by Ms. Sakevich. Mr. Watson abstained from voting.

Open Public Forum:

A motion was made by Mr. Watson to open public forum; the motion was second by Mr. Shaffer. All in favor; none opposed.

Old Business:

Chamber of Commerce- Mr. Shaffer reported that the Chamber of Commerce has grown to 73 members, an increase of 11 since the prior season. Ms. Sakevich proposed a goal of reaching 100 members by August.

Recent meetings have been drawing approximately 45 attendees consistently. The committee noted that this turnout relative to the total membership (73) reflects strong engagement. The last meeting was held at the Village of the Greens at Atlantis; the next meeting will be hosted at LBI Nationals, which has recently reopened after a two-month closure.

The next Chamber meeting is scheduled for April 23rd at 6:30 PM. Mr. Miller announced that meeting duration will be extended from 90 minutes to two hours (ending at 8:30 PM) to accommodate the open networking portion, which has consistently run over the allotted time.

Restaurant Week- Mr. Miller reported that he had not yet received an update from Andrea regarding the number of ads sold and restaurant participation for Restaurant Week. A message was sent to Andrea during the meeting.

Dave noted that the Restaurant Week advertisement had appeared in The Sandpaper (April 1st issue). Restaurants confirmed as participating included Doyle's and Grapevine. Mr. Miller acknowledged this as positive, noting that Doyle's had not historically participated.

Mr. Miller indicated he would obtain the digital file from Andrea and send it to Ms. Beaulieu to post on the Borough website.

New Jersey Film Festival- Mr. Shaffer reported no updates on the NJ Film Festival. As of the meeting date, no conference date had been scheduled. Dave confirmed he checks the schedule daily.

New Business:

Tuckerton Summerfest (formerly Ice Cream Festival)

Mr. Miller announced that the committee has pivoted from the "Ice Cream Festival" concept to a broader, annually themed event to be called Tuckerton Summerfest. Key details:

- Location remains the same.
- All previously planned activities and features are retained, including an ice cream contest.
- The event will have a different theme each year. The 2026 theme is the 1950s ("Celebrate the 50s").
- A formal event title incorporating the 1950s theme is to be determined.

Members Forum:

Tuckerton Seaport –Feedback

Mr. Peterson reported continuing feedback about the Seaport, including questions about future events, festivals, and the possibility of developing it similarly to Smithville. She relayed that one community member had expressed interest in leasing a Seaport building to refurbish and open a business.

Discussion included the following key points:

- Mr. Watson suggested the Borough explore a potential arrangement with Ocean County to take over management of the Seaport, noting the county may be interested in allowing businesses on the boardwalk. The Borough would retain 15 acres at the rear of the property not covered by Green Acres restrictions.
- Concerns were raised that county control (similar to Tip Seaman Park) could limit the Borough's autonomy over events and cost the Borough more for activities. Tip Seaman Park currently charges \$500/day for park rental and an additional \$500/day for stage use, making weekend events with a rain date cost approximately \$2,000.
- Mr. Peterson indicated that Joanne McAndrew may be able to negotiate better terms with the county on event fees, and Mr. Miller confirmed speaking with her is on his to-do list.
- Mr. Miller and others emphasized a willingness to collaborate with Seaport leadership if given the opportunity.

Lighting Ordinance / Complaints

Ms. Sakevich brought forward two community lighting concerns:

- Complaints about the brightness and 24/7 operation of LED parking lot lights at Stewart's, which residents find disruptive.
- Concern that the lighting may also be disturbing migratory waterfowl in nearby protected wetlands.
- Smoke shops were cited as potentially violating the existing lighting ordinance with bright window signage, though no enforcement action has been taken.

Mr. Watson suggested that a lighting ordinance amendment specifying a maximum color temperature of 3,000 Kelvin would address the brightness issue without reducing overall light levels.

Mr. Miller clarified that these are council and code enforcement matters, not EDC matters. Ms. Sakevich confirmed that going forward she will direct community members raising such concerns to: (1) contact code enforcement, or (2) attend a Borough Council meeting.

Close Public Forum:

A motion was made by Mr. Shaffer to close public forum; the motion was second by Mr. Watson. All in favor; none opposed.

Approval of Secretary Services:

A motion was made by Mr. Shaffer to pay the invoice of \$75.00 to Secretary, Savannah Beaulieu, for Secretarial Services; the motion was second by Mr. Watson. All in favor; none opposed.

Adjournment – 6:00 PM

Motion by Ms. Sakevich, second by Mr. Shaffer; all in favor, none opposed.

Respectfully submitted by: Savannah, Secretary, Tuckerton Borough EDC