



## Elk Township Economic Development Committee

*Development, Labor, Finance, & What can we do for you?*

August 18, 2017

The first ever Elk Township Business Breakfast was held on Wednesday August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and was a success! A little over half of the invited business attended, which we felt, given that many of our local businesses are small and busy during the morning hours, we were happy with the turn out.

The meeting was kicked off by Mayor Ed Poisker, who gave the group a little update on the towns interest in growing our small business community.

Freeholder Heather Simmons gave the group some information on the resources and services available through the county to help small business, concerning Labor and financing, this was backed up by Tom Bianco the director of the Gloucester County Economic Development Group, who answered questions from the attendees.

Steve Bach, the Township Planner gave an update on the Master Plan and how the Plan is flexible enough to help local and new businesses navigate through some of the regulations.

Jody Hirata of CBAC (Cooperative Business Assistance Corp.) explained other financing options for the small business,

Some questions were raised by the attendees and were answered by the various speakers. The main issue still seems to be Regulations. The feeling being they should be updated to reflect today, not when they were written years ago.

Breakfast was served with much of the food being donated by Pantry-One and Moods Farm market, and purchased locally.

At the end of the meeting Ed, asked if we should consider making this a more regular event and the consensus was, YES, as the group felt it was of interest to them



