



The City of Liberty Hill

P O Box 1920, Liberty Hill, Texas 78642
Phone: (512) 778-5449 Fax: (512) 778-5418

LHEDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING

THURSDAY – FEBRUARY 8, 2018 – 5:00 PM

Location: Council Chambers - 2801 Ranch Road 1869

CALL TO ORDER

Regular meeting of the Liberty Hill Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors was called to order at 5:00 PM by Bill Chapman - President. Invocation was given followed by reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge. **Members Present:** Bill Chapman; John Clark; Johnny Johnston; Chad Pirtle; Eric Bailey; and Ex-Officio Member Liz Rundzieher. Quorum was met. **Staff Present:** Greg Boatright; Lance Dean; Michel Sorrell and Barbara Zwernemann.

INTRODUCTION

City Administrator – Greg Boatright introduced the City's new Finance Director – Michel Sorrell, CPA who was previously employed by the City of Hutto. M. Sorrell gave a brief overview of her experience in Finance to the Board.

REGULAR AGENDA

Discuss and Consider Action on approving minutes of the Liberty Hill Economic Development Corporation Board meeting held January 23, 2018. Recommendation. On motion by Eric Bailey with second by Chad Pirtle, minutes of the January, 2018 EDC meeting were approved as presented. **Motion unanimously passed on vote of 5 AYES; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

An update was presented by Lance Dean – LHEDC Executive Director on the following topics or projects: Lance Dean reported a review of expenditures made by the Board in connection with EDC activities was reviewed (Refer to attached Financial Statements for complete details).

The EDC Director also reviewed accomplishments of the Board with direct relationship to economic development; these are as follows.

- EDC initiated a City-wide Commercial Recycling Program
- Developed and implemented a Sign Grant Program for greater LH Commercial businesses
- Developed and implemented a Demolition Grant Program for LH Commercial businesses

- Worked with the City and National Sign Plaza on Kiosks and directional / wayfinding signage
- Passed HOT ordinance
- Continued with Business Forum meetings
- First-time for LHEDC presence at Showcase Austin – including booth display
- Completed 3 downtown façade grants
- Provided sponsorship funds for the Christmas Festival; Rip Roarin’ Ride; Sculpture Garden Celebration and electrical repairs at Lions Foundation Park
- Continued business development activities by working with retail clients, which includes: Dairy Queen, Mojo Coffee and others in progress
- Continued active recruitment efforts for new businesses which includes a data warehouse facility and others
- Worked on advertising through updates / expansion of the EDC website and the Williamson County Relocation program
- Continued to expand advertising through EDC / City website updates; WilCo Relocation Guide participation and Texas “Elite 25” Cities for Business – Choose Texas Campaign through WILCO EDP.

Lance Dean also explained LHEDC is actively engaged at the local and county level which has increased awareness and interest level from developers, retailers and employers. Activities of the Board during the current budget cycle were addressed in an annual report to the City.

A review of Board activities other than direct economic development were also reviewed and shared with the EDC / City Council.

Current projects in progress include: incentive guidelines, framework and application, message and branding study, recruitment of retailers and primary employers, gateway signage for city, contributions to construction activities for sidewalk and road improvement projects, Façade Grant Program for LH business community, ACC / LHHS partnership and other higher education opportunities.

Accomplishments are continued through utilization of downtown façade and sign grant program funds, formation and funding of grant programs for greater LH businesses, infrastructure project fund allocations, local business and retailer growth linked to EDC involvement.

Long term issues include interconnectivity within the City (CR200 Park to Foundation Park); sidewalk construction and funding; downtown parking and recruiting retailers which ultimately mean an increase in jobs in Liberty Hill. A recap of budgeted expenditures to date was conducted in correlation with review of unexpended funds.

CONVENE – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Bill Chapman convened the Liberty Hill Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors to Executive Session at 5:45 PM stating the Board was convening for Consultation with Legal Counsel pursuant to Texas Government Code Section §551.071 – Consultant with Attorney and Texas Government Code Section §551.087 – Development. No action was taken in Executive Session.

Discuss proposed EDC incentives specifically for businesses locating and / or relocating to the City of Liberty Hill.

RECONVENE – REGULAR SESSION

Bill Chapman reconvened the Liberty Hill Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors to regular session at 6:23 PM.

Consider proposed EDC incentives specifically for businesses locating and / ore relocating to the City of Liberty Hill. **Recommendation:** Discussion was held. Motion was made by John Johnson with second by Eric Bailey to table this item until next month and provide for additional revisions and input by the Board. **Motion unanimously passed on vote of 5 AYES; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Johnny Johnston and second by John Clark, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM. **Motion passed on vote of 5 AYES; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

/s/ Barbara Zwernemann

CITY SECRETARY