



BOARD MEETING MINUTES – MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023

PRESENT: Gil Cherry, Russ Petty, Mark Meneses, Carolyn Lawrence, Jeff Allen, Miesha Adames, Ethan Whittenburg, Karen Hunt, Lynn Barrett, Patrick Fahy, Aubra Fahy, Dana Stanley

LOCATION: Downstairs conference room at the Sweetwater Chamber of Commerce, 810 E. Broadway, Sweetwater, Texas 79556

CALL TO ORDER: 2:00 PM by Carolyn Lawrence

PRAYER: Mark Meneses

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Carolyn Lawrence

PUBLIC INPUT: None

PRESENTATION: Miesha Adames introduced the City of Sweetwater's new Director of Planning and Operations: Lynn Barrett, AICP, CPM

PRESENTATION: Patrick and Aubra Fahy gave a presentation and provided details about a potential project in a downtown location.

ACTION ITEMS:

MINUTES: Board to review and consider approving minutes from the April 10, 2023, meeting. Mark Meneses made the motion to approve the minutes. Russ Petty seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Board to review and consider approving accounts payable. Gil Cherry made the motion to approve the accounts payable. Mark Meneses seconded. Russ Petty abstained. The motion carried 3-0.

FINANCIALS: Board to review and consider approving the March 2023 financial statements. Gil Cherry made the motion to approve the financials. Russ Petty seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT APPLICATION: Board to review and consider approving a Façade Improvement Grant request at 220 W. Broadway. Gil Cherry made the motion to approve funding in the amount of \$11,811.76 (the remaining funds allocated for façade improvement grants in fiscal year 2022-2023) with the understanding that at minimum the LED lighted sign, paint, primer and sealant, and cedar fence line items presented on the cost estimate will be completed. Mark Meneses seconded. Russ Petty abstained. The motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION: Board to review and consider approving Resolution 2023-002 regarding playground equipment funding in the amount of \$50,000.00 in Newman Park. Russ Petty

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made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-002. Mark Meneses seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

INCENTIVE AGREEMENT: Board to review and consider making changes to the EMA incentive agreement. Mark Meneses made the motion to approve changing the construction incentive to be payable once the 33,750 square foot expansion is complete and EMA retains the number of baseline employees state in the agreement, and to require EMA to present proof of commencement of construction to be eligible to receive their first employee incentive payment. Russ Petty seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION: Gil Cherry made the motion to enter Executive under Section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code, to discuss economic development negotiations. No action will be taken in the Executive Session as it is not permitted by law. Russ Petty seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

- A. Cape & Son monthly report
- B. Downtown project discussion

RECONVENE: A motion was made by Gil Cherry to re-enter into Regular Session with a second from Mark Meneses. The motion carried unanimously.

ETHAN WHITTENBURG UPDATE:

- A. Basic Economic Development Course: Ethan highlighted a few things about the BEDC he attended April 10-14.
- B. Senior Interviews: Ethan gave a report on the results of the Senior Interviews that were completed on May 2-3, 2023.

MIESHA ADAMES UPDATE:

- A. Avenger Field: Miesha updated the board on the designation of Ethan Whittenburg as Airport Manager for Avenger Field.
- B. Senior Interviews and Nolan County Leadership Forum: Miesha shared comments local students made when asked, "What would make Sweetwater a more livable place for your age group?"

There being no further business, Russ Petty made the motion to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

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