

The Cleveland Economic Development Corporation met in person and virtually using Zoom due to COVID-19 social precautions on May 24, 2021, for their monthly meeting with Board President Fred Terrell presiding.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Board President Fred Terrell, EDC Vice President Marilyn Clay, Boardmember Carolyn McWaters, Boardmember Patrick Caserez, Boardmember Michele Wyatt, Boardmember Robert Lacy, Boardmember Kelly Jenkel-Axton and City Secretary Angela Smith

**EMPLOYEES:** Bobby Pennington, Robert Reynolds, Jennifer Jeude, Savannah Cunningham, Leslie Herrera

**ATTENDEES:** Jim Carson, Eisha Jones

EDC Board President Fred Terrell called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm and stated there is a quorum.

**1. Invocation, Pledge and Roll Call**

Robert Lacy gave the invocation and Carolyn McWaters led the pledge to the Texas flag and Kelly Jenkel-Axton led the pledge to the US flag.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**2. Open Public Hearing to receive comments from residents of Cleveland with regards to its proposed amendment to the approved 2020-21 fiscal year budget and amended projects list. The nature of the amended proposed project is as follows:**

- a. Participation in the proposed creation and funding of a new road from FM 2025 to US 59 by the proposed Northside school
  - i. Hear comments on amended project as listed above.

Public hearing was opened at 6:04 pm. There were no comments or questions.

**3. Close Public Hearing**

Public hearing was closed at 6:05 pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

**4. Public Comments**

Jim Carson provided a chamber update.

**6. Summary of monthly business prospect report and EDC project updates by EDC Director Robert Reynolds**

EDC Director Reynolds gave the monthly business report and EDC project updates. BNSF moving forward. QT moving forward, it has been kinda wet and this project is now costing \$1 million more. Criss and Titus Investments are still looking. McKinley: they made an agreement with a company to run the golf course. The Huddle House location may have a new business that will make all happy. Mr. Baker's agreement with Vertigan has ended now. The Washington investor is moving to this area. B Plastics is looking for 20 acres – Low Bridge Road – CR 388.

**5. Reports and comments from Directors and staff**

Robert Reynolds – we have a lot going on and we need to work together.

Robert Lacy – this is his 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and he gets his reports on Friday. If he is needed for additional meetings, please give him a day or two notice to schedule.

Fred Terrell – appreciate everyone tonight.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 7. Approval minutes from the April 26, 2021 business meeting**
- 8. Approval on approval of monthly bill payments**
- 9. Approval of monthly financial statements**
- 10. Approval of quarterly investment report for period ending March 31, 2021**

Boardmember Clay asked to pull item number 7 from consent.

Boardmember Lacy made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 8-10 with a second from Boardmember Wyatt. All members present voted 'AYE'. Motion carried.

Boardmember Clay asked about agenda item 7 – Minutes. She asked for clarification on agenda item 7 in the minutes as it stated that item was tabled and she also mentioned the statement that Kelly Jenkel-Axton had abstained on a vote. Both Patrick Caserez and Fred Terrell confirmed that the minutes accurately reflect the meeting transactions.

Boardmember Clay made a motion to approve the agenda item 7 Minutes from April 26, 2021 with a second from Boardmember Lacy. All members present voted "AYE". Motion carried.

### **DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

#### **11. Presentation with discussion and possible action on Tuff Kids program support request**

Eisha Jones spoke on the Tuff Kids program. She explained what the programs does and accomplishes. Also spoke on the new building that they recently were gifted. It is the old Masons Lodge. Their goal is to make it a community center for a safe place to go. There are different levels of support. Ms. Jones also spoke about the USDA 502 loan packet program as a way to support the center. The ages of kids in this program range from 7-18. It is limited to 30 kids with a 10-1 ratio. They do need volunteers to help. The summer program is five days from 8-4:30 pm. They have a 1998-15 passenger van that handles the transportation.

Boardmember Clay thanked Ms. Jones for providing the information on this program. The exposure is needed as we don't have a Boys and Girls club here. This is a great opportunity to support the community and is well needed.

Robert Reynolds – this is a good program. About four years ago he did a fishing trip with kids from this program. Tuff Kids is a 501c nonprofit program.

It was mentioned that building companies may be able to help out with supplies for renovation as well.

There was no action taken at this time.