

***City of Rowlett***  
**Economic Development Advisory Board**

**Tuesday, July 23, 2024**

**Rowlett Economic Development Building**

***Meeting Minutes***

**1. CALL TO ORDER.**

Chairman Mick Donnelly, called the Rowlett Economic Development Advisory Board meeting to order at 8:31 A.M. on July 23, 2024. In attendance: Chairman Mick Donnelly, Chamber Foundation Chairperson Tori Owen, Mayor Blake Margolis, GISD Board Member Larry Glick, Chamber President & CEO Sharon Mayer, City Designee Second Chair Michael Weaver, Chamber Board Chair Stephen Causey, City Designee Rhonda Wolfe and City Designee Tim Abrams. Staff: Director of Economic and Community Engagement Brittney Farr, and Assistant Director of Economic Development Charles Mazarakes and Senior Administrative Assistant Claudia Frausto. Absent was City Councilmember Debra Shinder, Assistant City Manager Kristoff Bauer and City Manager David Hall

**2. PUBLIC INPUT**

None.

**3. CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 18, 2024 MEETING.**

A motion was made by Michael Weaver and seconded by Tori Owen to approve the June 18, 2024 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

**4. BOARD MEMBERS SHARE TOPICS AND IDEAS RELATED TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**

None.

**5. CITY KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING ITEMS.**

**Rowlett Chamber/Chamber Foundation Update:** Chamber Foundation Chairperson Tori Owen announced the Chamber Foundation awarded a Sign Grant to Quinn Pediatrics, with no new scholarship updates. Chamber President & CEO Sharon Mayer working to re-engage the Rowlett Woman's Professional Group, Young Professionals and Seniors Works Alliance to benefit the different demographics the Chamber represents events to come in September and October. Modernize update of Chamber logo portfolio refresh with an up take in social media posting highlighting board members, volunteers and welcoming new members.

**GISD Update:** Larry Glick, GISD Board discussed District school safety and coverage and the differences and advances from the 2014 Bond Election and the recent 2024 Bond Election.

**Economic Development Department Update:** Brittney Farr, Director of Economic and Community Engagement, started with the new business update & BRE report for June. New dining experiences include Grain & Berry, First Baptist Church Rowlett, Bryan Eric Electrical Contractors and Roofs by Shiloh LLC. Business retention & expansion (BRE) visits Brick and Bone, 30 Brunch House, Acacia Collective, MOMO and Curry, Push Fitness and This Little Bean.

For the Fiscal Year 2024 Q3 with sixteen (16) new business, twenty-three (23) certificates of occupancy, eight (8) new commercial building permits worth \$72,212,814 and eight (8) existing commercial building/remodel permits worth \$3,938,674. The economic development website totaled 18,587 hits while creating 132 new jobs and performing thirteen (16) BRE visits. The Sales Taxes reported for the month of May as the lasts, the Comptroller has reported \$769,788. This is \$6,682 or 0.9% below forecast and \$42,788, or 5.3% less than the same month last year.

NTTA PGBT update requested by Larry Glick was provided by Charles Mazarakes Assistant Economic Development Director. <https://www.ntta.org/president-george-bush-turnpike-pgbt>

Ms. Farr followed with upcoming Downtown Rowlett events, Friday Night Grooves – Every Friday in September beginning at 7:00 p.m. on the Downtown Green. Fall Market on Main – Every Thursday Sept. 19th – Nov. 14th from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. on the Downtown Green (no market on Halloween evening!). Citizen’s Academy begins Sept. 19th. Registration is open through August 23rd on Rowlett.com.

6.) Discuss the Mission, Vision, and Future Goals for the Economic Development Advisory Board

7.) Discuss and take action on the meeting time and frequency of the Economic Development Advisory Board

A motion was made by Tori Owen and seconded by Tim Abrams to approve for EDAB as an interim to meet on odd months of the year with the ability to call special meetings as needed. The motion carried unanimously.

**8. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT: MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND/OR STAFF MAY MAKE ANNOUNCEMENTS OF LOCAL CIVIC EVENTS. NO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR COMMISSION MAY DISCUSS NOR TAKE ANY ACTION WITH REGARD TO THE ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

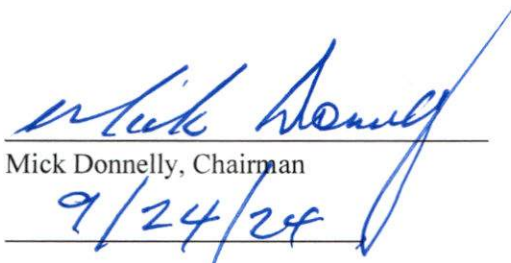
- Blake shared positive feelings about budget season ending with practical recourse

9. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD MAY REQUEST TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDA MEETINGS. NO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR COMMISSION MAY DISCUSS ANY OF THE REQUESTED SUBJECTS UNTIL SUCH MATTER HAS BEEN PROPERLY PLACED ON A POSTED AGENDA.

- North Shore update/tour requested previously by Chairman Mick Donnelly (June 2023 Meeting)
- Incentives policy updates and changes to be added to a future agenda (October 2023 Meeting)

9. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:16 A.M.



Mick Donnelly, Chairman

9/24/24

Date Approved



Brittney Farr, Assigned City Staff