The Bastrop Economic Development Corporation (BEDC) met on Monday, February 27, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. for a Regular Board Meeting at Bastrop City Hall, 1311 Chestnut Street. Board members present: Ron Spencer, Jenn Wahl, Richard Smarzik, Jeff Haladyna, Charles Washington, Lyle Nelson, and Connie Schroeder. Staff members present: Bret Gardella, Angela Ryan, Jean Riemenschneider, and Ashley Allnutt. BEDC attorney Charles Zech was also in attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER – Board Chair Spencer called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT(S) – There were no public comments.

3. REGULAR BUSINESS & PRESENTATIONS

   3.1. Approval of meeting minutes from the BEDC Regular Board Meeting and the Joint Workshop Meeting of January 23, 2023. Mr. Smarzik made the motion to approve the minutes as submitted, Mr. Nelson seconded, and the motion passed.

   3.2. Receive financial report provided by City of Bastrop’s Chief Financial Officer for the period ending January 2023 and treasurer’s comments. Mr. Smarzik said everything in the financial reports looked good and reported he had met with the CFO.

   At this time, Mr. Smarzik called for point of order about item 4.1 in Executive Session, asking who had requested it be added to the agenda. Mr. Nelson responded that he had requested it.

   3.3. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding approval of Resolution R-2023-0002 approving the terms of an agreement with the City of Bastrop, Texas, to fund a Sports Facility Feasibility Study in an amount not to exceed $50,000. After discussion, Mr. Spencer made the motion to approve the resolution and Ms. Schroeder seconded. The motion passed, with Mr. Smarzik voting against it.

   3.4. Discussion and possible action on a Board recommendation to the BEDC Executive Director about proceeding with the MLK/Technology Drive extension project. The Board discussed the engineering changes that would be required in order to move forward with the project. After further discussion, Mr. Smarzik made the motion for City Manager Sylvia Carrillo to bring a revised plan back to the Board at the April meeting, Ms. Wahl seconded it, and the motion passed.

   3.5. Update, discussion and possible action on a Board recommendation to the BEDC Executive Director on next steps for the property located at 108 S. Jackson Street in the Bastrop Business and Industrial Park. Because there is a signed purchase agreement and escrow money at the title company, Mr. Smarzik made the motion that the BEDC attorney investigate getting the agreement nullified and give an answer at the next meeting, Ms. Wahl seconded it, and the motion passed.

   3.6. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of Resolution R-2023-0003 establishing a Revolving Loan Fund Program using the donated funds from Roscoe State Bank. Mr. Gardella explained the new draft no longer included any reference to the “macro-loan” and would only use the funds donated by the bank. Mr. Smarzik made the motion to approve the resolution, Mr. Haladyna seconded, and the motion passed.
3.7. Update, discussion and possible action on the BEDC acquiring space for education and workforce training opportunities. After discussing the possibility of leasing the office next door to the BEDC office, Mr. Spencer requested that BEDC obtain a list of what the estimated expenses would be.

3.8. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding approval of Resolution R-2023-0004 approving a Support Services Agreement with the City of Bastrop. Mr. Smarzik made the motion to approve the amended agreement from the attorney, Mr. Nelson seconded, and the motion passed.

3.9. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding approval of Resolution R-2023-0005, entering into a shared agreement with the City of Bastrop for an engineering study of Lovers Lane Bus Barn, proposed South Street Extension, and the Business Park to the east of Union Pacific Railroad (studied as a small area traffic and circulation study). After discussion, Mr. Nelson made the motion to approve the resolution and also give the CEO the authority to negotiate and sign the agreement with the City. Mr. Haladyna seconded, and the motion passed.

3.10. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding approval of Resolution R-2023-0006 approving the expenditure of $1,000,000 (One Million Dollars) for the extension of Blakey Lane. Mr. Haladyna made the motion to approve the resolution, Ms. Wahl seconded, and the motion passed.

Mr. Smarzik called point of order to introduce a motion to table agenda item 4.1(2) indefinitely; Ms. Schroeder stated that Mr. Smarzik was out of order with the rules and procedures. No action was taken.

3.11. Staff Updates: Bastrop Economic Development Forum; Manufacturers’ Task Force; Youth Career Day; update on ACC welding class; Pflugerville Workforce in PFocus event; and Second Annual REDnews Austin Industrial Summit. Mr. Gardella and Ms. Riemenschneider gave the Board an update on events attended.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

4.1. At 6:39 p.m., the BEDC Board of Directors met in a closed/executive session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, to discuss the following:

(1) Section 551.087 Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations – Project Triple Arrow; Project Walk of Fame; and Project Western Edge.

(2) Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney and Section 551.074 Personnel Matters regarding the evaluation, duties, and discipline of Executive Director

4.2. At 7:49 p.m., the BEDC Board of Directors reconvened into open session to discuss, consider, and take any action necessary related to the executive sessions noted herein. No action was necessary.

5. ADJOURNMENT – Ms. Schroeder made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Smarzik seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

APPROVED: Ron Spencer, Board Chair

ATTEST: Angela Ryan, Operations Manager