

West Tawakoni Economic Development Corporation

Special Meeting

October 18, 2023

1. Call to Order

President Pam Reed called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

2. Invocation

Larry Pare led the invocation.

3. Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all in attendance.

4. Roll Call

James Chemp, Pam Reed, Kathey ONeal and Larry Pare were in attendance. Harry Rosario and Elizabeth Osborne were not present. Several citizens were present.

5. Announcements

a. Movies in the Park will be held October 21 at 7:30 p.m. at the WT City Park. Free hot dogs will be offered by the WTVFD.

b. Ticolini Circus will be Nov. 10, 11 and 12 at WT City Park. Times are Friday at 7 p.m, Saturday at 4 and 7 p.m. and Sunday at 4 p.m. Tickets are available for purchase at WT City Hall and from city council members.

c. Market on the Lake will be November 11.

d. Trick or Trunk will be October 29 from 3-5 p.m. Those who plan to offer tricks should plan to set up at 2 p.m.

6. Citizen input related to Agenda.

Alicia Lee and Bill Creed addressed the board regarding offering grants/loans to city businesses.

7. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of minutes from August and September. A motion by James Chemp, seconded by Larry Pare, carried unanimously to approve the minutes of August and September.

8. New Business

a. Discuss application for board seat.

Applicants Rhett Byers and Bill Creed answered questions and offered qualifications for the position.

The board adjourned to Executive Session at approximately 7:30 p.m. to discuss the open Board position and returned from Executive Session at 7:54 p.m.

Larry Pare moved to accept Rhett Byers as the newest EDC Board member. James Chemp seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

9. Old Business

a. Revisit and discuss Fat Katz loan. The Board entered into a contract with Jason and Stacy Jones for the loan of \$13,500 agreed to at an earlier meeting. The check has been presented to them.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at approximately 8:10 p.m. to discuss the Fat Katz loan and returned from Executive Session at 8:31 p.m.

James Chemp moved to forgive \$2000 on the principal of the loan at the end of the first year if the payments are made, and the restaurant maintains 15 full-time employees. The matter will be revisited each year. Kathey O'Neal seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

b. Discuss Facebook page and website.

President Reed reported that the website is doing well. She will place meeting Agendas and Minutes on the website each month.

Following a discussion, the Board decided not to start a Facebook page at this time due to lack of continuous monitoring and control. The matter was tabled and will be revisited at a later date.

12. Citizen input related to non-agenda items.

EDC Board member Kathey O'Neal discussed misinformation and complaints from the community about some of the EDC expenditures.

Rhett Byers discussed the need to bring the Young Marines organization to Hunt County.

13. James Chemp moved to adjourn the meeting at 9 p.m. The motion was seconded by Kathey O'Neal and passed unanimously.