

**SHEPHERD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

REGULAR CALLED MEETING

28 N. Liberty, Shepherd, Texas 77371

November 4, 2024, at 6:00pm

**Members Present:** Kurtz Stowers, Mark Porter, Charles Minton, Billy Lacoste, Freddy Ramos, Wendell Williams

**Members Absent:**

**Others Present:** Debra Hagler

**CALLED TO ORDER/INVOCATION/PLEDGE**

Kurtz Stowers called the meeting to order with Charles Minton leading in prayer, then pledges were recited.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Mark Porter made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting. Freddy Ramos seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL MONTHLY PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Mark Porter made a motion to pay the bills. Charles Minton seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**CITIZEN PRESENTATIONS:**

None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Update and take any action required regarding Clark Addison's video/ promotional advertisement campaign.**

Mark Porter made a motion to suspend the trial and allow City Hall and the Library to use the TVs to benefit the public. Charles Minton seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Discuss and take action to set rental fee for Perla and Gwendy to add an additional space to their Spa/Nail business.**

Mark Porter made a motion to set the rent at \$600.00 for both spaces. Billy LaCoste seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Report on the Strategic Planning Meeting for Shepherd ISD attended by Mayor Minton.**

No Action was required on this item. Mayor Minton reported that SISD is updating their 2025 Vision Statement, and he was able to attend some of the meetings. He stated there were about six tables and each table charted "SWOT"- (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) The common themes were poverty, education, economics, not enough housing, and a negative mindset.

**Discuss and take action to enter into an agreement with Law Offices of Leonard Schneider PLLC for legal services.**

Charles Minton made a motion to discuss this with Larry Foerster. Freddy Ramos seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**Update on the Biddle Housing Project**

No action was taken on this item. It was reported that this project is still "a go."

**Discuss and take action required on the "Thankful for you" business gesture.**

Billy LaCoste made a motion to have the event and set a budget of no more than \$1500.00. Mark Porter seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous vote.

**Discuss and take action on how to participate in the Blue and White Christmas Event**

Mark Porter made a motion to do something like last year's event at the school with a budget of \$800.00. Wendell Williams seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Lauren will see about renting an elf or something similar.

**Discuss and take action to participate in the Teacher Holiday Basket give away plus set an amount and budget for the baskets.**

Mark Porter made a motion to participate by donating ten baskets with a budget of \$1000.00. Freddy Ramos seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Discuss and take action on Expansion of Lilley Road to accommodate new business.**

Mark Porter made a motion to advise 7B to do it and see if they will pay for it. Charles Minton seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. There was discussion of reimbursement if necessary.

**MONTHLY REPORT FROM LAUREN:**

Lauren reported that the Dollar General Market is scheduled to open soon. She gave an update on the Holiday Inn on Hwy 59. She reported on a housing development of 140 to 250 homes on a 124-acre tract. She reported that another of the homes in the Blue Gill subdivision is under contract. She stated that Happy Days Diner had been purchased and will be a Mexican Food Restaurant. She stated that rumors are flying about What-A-Burger but reports that Babba's is not for sale.

**OPEN DISCUSSION & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mark Hamilton submitted his resignation.

**ADJOURN: 7:21pm**

Charles Minton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark Porter seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kurtz Stowers, EDC President  
\*Prepared by Debra Hagler