

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF TARRANT §
TOWN OF PANTEGO §

The Pantego Economic Development Corporation of the Town of Pantego, Texas, met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 1614 South Bowen Road, Pantego, on the 18th day of May 2011 with the following members present:

Bill Brown	President
Jim Staples	Vice President
Barbara Rogers	Treasurer
Nancy York	Secretary
Robert "Bob" Horak	Director
Don Surratt	Director

constituting a quorum. Director Bobbie Jo Majors was absent. Staff present were:

Thomas Griffith	Interim Executive Director
Lindsay Wells	City Secretary
Ron Edwards	Director of Public Works
Fitzhugh Newsome	Director of Finance

Also present:

Melody Paradise	Mayor
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REGULAR SESSION 7:00 P.M.
CALL TO ORDER AND GENERAL COMMENTS

President Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION: DON SURRETT

Director Don Surratt gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Executive Director's Report

Interim Executive Director Griffith gave his report:

- Citizen Stakeholder interviews with Jacobos were originally scheduled for May 17-18 and were rescheduled for May 24-25. Mr. Griffith recommended to PEDC to arrange to be interviewed if they had not been already.
- Mr. Griffith updated PEDC on possible development of Applebee's Restaurant moving in to Pantego and relayed that that will not be possible due the fact that another Applebee's location is less than 5 miles away in Arlington.

2. Approval of PEDC Minutes for April 20, 2011.

Director Surratt moved to approve the minutes for April 20, 2011. Director Bob Horak seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

3. Approval of Bills Payable for May 18, 2011.

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Director Nancy York moved to approve the Bills Payable for May 18, 2011. Treasurer Barbara Rogers seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Finance Director Fitzhugh Newsom presented payables for PEDC review. No vote at this time. Discussion of lighting changes and park repairs was made by directors in relation to Mr. Newsome's handout.

4. Presentation by Jim Staples.

Jim Staples submitted a presentation for PEDC consideration to hire him as Economic Development Coordinator. It is his opinion that he is most qualified for this position due to the fact that he is a citizen and brings a unique perspective to the job. "The Town of Pantego is one of the smallest, full service towns in the nation and enjoys an enviable location in the heart of a rapidly growing region, the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex." He outlined his goals for existing business development, new business development and residential development. Mr. Staples also laid out the benefits he brings to the community and his credentials such as a long time Pantego resident, current PEDC member, former councilmember and local contacts.

Directors asked several questions of Mr. Staples related to his presentation including contacting local businesses and grant experience and knowledge. Directors discussed Mr. Staples strengths and weaknesses.

5. Presentation by M.J. Harrison.

Martha Harrison submitted a presentation for PEDC consideration to hire her as Economic Development Coordinator. She has previous experience as an Economic Development Coordinator, city government, project management, facilities management, and neighborhood revitalization. Ms. Harrison is a former business owner and outside sales representative. She earned a bachelor and Masters degree from the University of Texas at Arlington. She reviewed her qualifications as they related to the posted job description. Ms. Harrison laid out her strategies of Asset-focused Strategic Planning, Emphasis in Existing Business Retention, Recruit businesses to fill vacant properties and Seek new development/construction projects.

Directors asked Ms. Harrison questions regarding current employment and experience with prior cities budgets in relation to Pantego.

6. Update and discussion of Park Row Project

Interim Executive Director Griffith began discussion with an update on the Gateway project before introducing Ron Edwards and Steve Elliott with CMA. Mr. Edwards discussed location of Gateway and Monument signs and issues that have arisen regarding traffic right of ways, easements, and traffic view obstruction. The chosen location is right along the Arlington/Pantego city limit line. Mr. Edwards discussed meeting with business owners to place the pedestal for the Gateway on their property. The included sketch in the agenda packet was discussed and Mr. Edwards made known that the location labeled Gateway Alternate A is the preferred locations. Director Surratt suggested the directors as a group make a site visit to the location to fully understand the options. Mr. Elliott gave the directors clarification of how the decision was made about the preferred location.

Director Staples is not in favor of the Current location and would rather see Gateway Alternate A or B. Directors asked Mr. Edwards and Mr. Elliott questions for clarifications regarding exact specifications. One side of the Gateway would fall in Arlington's city limits and the City of Arlington is amenable to allowing the construction. Mayor Paradise gave her opinion about placing the gateway too far inside the town limits and giving the wrong public perception about where the city limits actually are.

President Brown recommended arranging a special session for the Directors to visit the site. The board decided to collectively meet at the location together and arrange a special meeting of PEDC, Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at Braum's.

7. Discussion of Economic Development Coordinator Position including current applicants.

President Brown recommended the board look at the submitted resumes and can discuss their findings in Executive Session at a later meeting. At the special session, scheduled for May 24, 2011, in addition to discussing the Park Row project, the meeting will reconvene at City Hall.

PEDC MEMBERS REPORT

No report.

ADJOURNMENT

President Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.


Bill Brown, President

ATTEST:


Nancy York, Secretary