

FREDERICKSBURG
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES (EDA)

November 9, 2020

8:30 a.m. • EDA Regular E-Meeting

Recorded Go to Meeting

The Economic Development Authority of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia met in regular session on Monday, November 8, 2020 beginning at 8:30 a.m. via recorded Go to Meeting.

Chair Black read the following statement, this meeting is being held electronically by Go to Meeting, pursuant to City Council Ordinance 20-05, an Ordinance to Address Continuity of City Government during the pendency of a Pandemic Disaster.

EDA MEMBERS PRESENT. Beth Black Chair, presiding. Will Mackintosh, Suzy Stone, Mitzi Brown, Chris Waller, Lee Murray and Susan Richey.

ABSENT. None.

ALSO PRESENT. EDA Counsel: Blanton Massey; Department of Economic Development and Tourism: Bill Freehling, Director; Angela Freeman, Diversity, Equity and Economic Advancement Officer; Amy Peregoy, Economic Development Specialist.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM. Mitzi Brown.

AGENDA.

MOTION by Will Mackintosh, seconded by Suzy Stone, the agenda was approved: Ayes (7); Nays (0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS. Chair Black asked Ms. Peregoy if there were any public comments submitted prior to today's meeting via the instructions on the published agenda. Ms. Peregoy stated, no public comments were received.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

MOTION by Suzy Stone, seconded by Will Mackintosh the minutes from the November 9, 2020 regular meeting were approved: Ayes (7); Nays (0).

TREASURER'S REPORT. Mr. Murray presented account activity. The budget and financial statement are filed with the minutes. Mr. Freehling stated the EDA will be returning roughly \$400,000 to the City for the Gateway Blvd. project. City Council will discuss the allocation of the returned funds during a work session.

OLD BUSINESS. None.

NEW BUSINESS. Winter COVID Discussion – Chair Black requested Ms. Peregoy present an update of the CARES Act Small Business Outdoor Dining Assistance Program. Ms. Peregoy stated there were currently fifteen applications in which two applications have been approved. She is working with the other applicants on the program criteria. Mr. Mackintosh asked if Ms. Peregoy needed assistance getting the information to 22401 restaurants. Ms. Peregoy stated any assistance would be welcomed as she is calling and messaging all small business restaurants.

Ms. Brown and Ms. Richey have been working to create a program, Donate-a-Meal. Ms. Richey gave an overview of the program (included in packet). After a brief discussion, a two member committee should be created to develop the details of the program.

MOTION by Will Mackintosh, seconded by Mitzi Brown the board established a Small Business COVID Response Committee consisting of Susan Richey and Mitzi Brown allocating a \$25,000 budget to develop a program to assist 22401 small business restaurants: Ayes (7); Nays (0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. **Parking Improvement Committee** – Mr. Mackintosh reported there are concerns regarding fees at the new parking garage and the 15 minute pick-up parking spaces. A meeting may be set before next month.
- b. **Strategic Investments Committee** – No update.
- c. **Workforce Development Committee** – Ms. Brown noted Germanna Community College (GCC) staff and City school staff are refining their working concept of student cohorts. They are still working with students and contacting employers.
- d. **InvestFXBG Loan Committee** – Ms. Stone stated one application was in process.
- e. **Chatham Bridge Rehabilitation Marketing Committee** – Ms. Brown read an update from Capitalize Marketing & Consulting. (Filed in minute book.)
- f. **Business Assistance Committee** – No update.

STAFF REPORT. Mr. Freehling updated the board on the following: Open House Weekend, Love Scrub, Window Wonderland, 15 Minute Pick-Up parking, and business openings.

Ms. Freeman discussed the public survey and meetings for racial equity. All the boards and commissions have received the survey to provide input. There are a growing number of organizations who are starting similar efforts. GCC has started a Black Minds Matter program. She stated there would possibly be a public report before the December meeting. She provided C-PACE activity advancements to include taking the guidelines to the Clean & Green Commission.

CHAIR'S REPORT. Chair Black discussed the public survey Ms. Freeman mentioned in her report. Chair Black asked if each board member would like to respond individually or respond collectively. She offered that she, Vice Chair Mackintosh and Mr. Freehling would be happy to respond for the board. The board agreed to her offer.

BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS. Ms. Brown stated she was proud of the EDA for their response to the needs of the business community while staying true to their mission. Mr. Murray noted the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance annual meeting which will be hosting six site selectors.

CLOSED SESSION.

Ms. Brown moved for adoption of Resolution 20-04 under Code of Virginia 2.2-3711.A.3 for the purpose of discussion or consideration of acquisition of real property for a public purpose, specifically, to acquire and enhance the attractiveness, usage and marketability of a vacant or underutilized parcel of real estate in the City of Fredericksburg, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the Economic Development Authority.

MOTION by Mitzi Brown, seconded by Will Mackintosh: Ayes (7); Nays (0).

Where upon the members went into closed session.

Upon coming out of closed session.

MOTION by Mitzi Brown, to adopt Resolution 20-05, certifying the proper conduct of the closed session. Seconded by Suzy Stone; the motion was passed: Ayes (7); Nays (0).

Mr. Massey excused himself from the meeting during the Closed Session.

MOTION by Lee Murray, seconded by Suzy Stone the board authorized the Strategic Investments Committee to negotiate on behalf of the EDA to potentially enter into a purchase agreement on the target property and authorize up to \$10,000 in associated fees: Ayes (7); Nays (0).

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Economic Development Authority at this time, Chair Black declared the meeting officially adjourned at 10:27 a.m.



Mitzi Brown, Secretary

**Resolution 20-04 for Economic Development Authority to Hold Closed Meeting Under
The Virginia Freedom of Information Act**

Date of Adoption: November 9, 2020

Proposed by: Brown

Seconded by: Mackintosh

Resolved that the Economic Development Authority convene a closed meeting under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act in order to discuss:

Personnel – specific City officers, appointees, or employees, for the purpose of considering such person’s assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salary, disciplining, or resignation, under Virginia Code §2.2-3711.A.1, more particularly, the performance of the Director of the Department of Economic Development & Tourism of the City of Fredericksburg, VA.

Real Property -

the acquisition of real property

for the purpose of discussion or consideration of acquisition of real property for a public purpose, specifically, to acquire and enhance the attractiveness, usage and marketability of a vacant or underutilized parcel of real estate in the City of Fredericksburg, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the Economic Development Authority, under Virginia Code 2.2-3711.A.3.

the disposition of publicly held real property,

Prospective Business -

a prospective business or industry, OR

the expansion of an existing business or industry,

for the purpose of holding a discussion concerning : _____ , where no previous announcement has been made of the business or industry’s interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community, under Virginia Code §2.2-3711.A.5.

Legal Matters -

actual litigation specifically, _____

with legal counsel, where such consultation in open session would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the Economic Development Authority, **OR**

probable litigation with legal counsel, staff, or consultants, where (1) litigation has been specifically threatened or on which the Economic Development Authority or its counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party, and (2) such consultation in open session would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the Economic Development Authority, **OR**

legal matters, _____, with counsel, where such matters require the provision of legal advice, under Virginia Code §2.2-3711.A.7.

Other – (Specify subject matter, purpose of discussion, and applicable Code Section)

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RESOLUTION 20-05 CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED EDA MEETING

Proposal by: Brown
Seconded by: Stone

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Economic Development Authority of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Authority has this date convened a closed meeting under Virginia Code §2.2-3711.A.3, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote adopting **Resolution 20-05** and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, §2.2-3712.D of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Authority that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Authority hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law (Chapter 37 of Title 2.2) were heard, discussed or considered in such closed meeting, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting by the Authority.

Date of Adoption: November 9, 2020

VOTE: AYES: 7 NAYS: 0

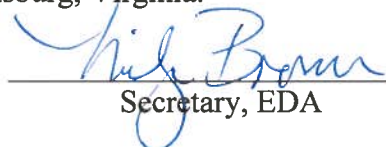
CERTIFICATION:

Secretary's Certificate

I, the undersigned, certify that I am the Secretary for the Economic Development Authority of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, and that the foregoing is a true copy of Resolution 20-05 duly adopted at a meeting of the Economic Development Authority held on November 9, 2020, at which a quorum was present and voted.

Given under my hand and the official seal of the Economic Development Authority of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Date: 12/29/20


Secretary, EDA