

Habersham County Development Authority
Thursday, October 6, 2022 @ 3:30 pm
Executive Conference Room
130 Jacob's Way, Clarkesville, GA 30523

Members Present: Gail Thaxton, Bryan Ferguson, Brent Edwards, Allen Whitener, Jeff Bruns

Members Not Present: Bill Duff, Kelly Woodall

Others Present: County staff, Members of the Public and Media

Call to Order and Invocation

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm and invocation given by Gail Thaxton.

Approval of Agenda

A MOTION was made by Bryan Ferguson, SECONDED by Brent Edwards, and voted unanimously to approve the order of business.

Approval of Minutes

A MOTION was made by Brent Edwards, SECONDED by Bryan Ferguson, and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 1, 2022 regular meeting and the minutes of the September 19, 2022 Special Called Meeting.

Monthly Activity Report

Alicia Vaughn presented the Monthly Activity and Financial report. September YTD represents 25% of the Fiscal year. Current revenues are 4.96% and current expenditures are .62%. Total account balances equal \$683,155.

A MOTION was made by Jeff Bruns, SECONDED by Brent Edwards, and voted unanimously to approve the monthly financial report as presented.

Old Business

Airport Business Park Update – Charlie Fiveash gave the business park update. There is a prospect with a current established business in Jackson County, whose corporate headquarters are in Oklahoma, that has interest in relocating to the business park. They would bring 20 manufacturing jobs with an average wage of \$27.00 per hour. The company also has an airplane and would be utilizing our airport. They would need access to natural gas and three-phase power. Wade Rhodes is planning to meet with Scott Hutcheson, who is purchasing pads 5 and 7, to review designs and costs of constructing a building 20k to 25k square feet with room for expansion for this prospect. The construction project would need to go smoothly to meet the deadline of one year to have the building occupied. Processes such as land disturbance permit, surveying, annexation, etc. can take months to complete.

Since the last two graded sites are under contract, that leaves pad 10, an ungraded 10-acre site. Charlie is working on getting quotes from local landscaping companies to do some upgrades and regular maintenance on the business park entrances. Wade Rhodes asked when the tenants will be receiving invoices for their share of the streetlight monthly bill. Mike Beecham said he had not received a bill from HEMC yet but would follow up.

Other Property Updates – none

Partnership Habersham – none

New Business

Consider/Approve RFQ for Old Courthouse – A MOTION was made by Brent Edwards, seconded by Bryan Ferguson, and voted unanimously to approve the RFQ as presented.

Discuss/Nominate Review Committee for Courthouse RFQ – A MOTION was made by Jeff Bruns, seconded by Bryan Ferguson, and voted unanimously to approve the nominations for the review committee for the Courthouse RFQ. The committee will consist of Alicia Vaughn, Charlie Fiveash, Tim Sims, Mike Beecham, and Keith Dickerson.

Discuss/Nominate Architectural Review Committee for Airport Business Park – A MOTION was made by Jeff Bruns, seconded by Brent Edwards, and voted unanimously to approve the nominations for the Architectural Review sub-committee for the airport business park. The members will consist of Bill Duff as Chair, Bryan Ferguson as Vice-Chair/Secretary, Allen Whitener, and Christy Ivester, an owner-operator in the airport business park.

Other Reports

Discussion of pending land sale revenues – The closing on the sale of pads 5 and 7 should be done before the end of the year, per Wade Rhodes.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is Thursday, November 3, 2022 @ 3:30 pm, Habersham County Administration Building.

Adjourn

A MOTION was made by Bryan Ferguson, seconded by Brent Edwards, and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 4:26 p.m.



Brent Edwards, Secretary



Attest: Charlie Fiveash