



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE RICE COMMUNITY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
RICE, TEXAS**

November 18, 2024

7:00 PM

Rice City Hall – Business Hub

305 N. Dallas Street

Rice, TX 75155

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

- a. Brandi Solomon
- b. Garry Teague - absent
- c. Rolando Chapa
- d. James Franks
- e. Tonya Roberts
- f. Donna Gipson
- g. Sarah Farley
- h. Archa Cassel

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Texas Pledge of Allegiance

4. Prayer

5. Public Forum

Tonya made a motion to forego initial items. Brandi 2nd. Ayes - Rolando, James, Sarah, Donna. Motion passed.

6. Agenda Items

a. Discuss and Deliberate Plans for Downtown Project

- Items identified during workshop
- Proposed Phases:
 - 1 - lights, electrical pole, cameras, trash cans and flagpole.
* it was noted that we would defer to the electrician's recommendations/expertise for installation, location, etc.
 - 2 - sidewalk, run electrical, install entrance arch.
 - 3 - pavilion, benches, tables, speakers.
 - 4 - trees and landscaping.
* it was noted that any part of the project funded/donated by a 3rd party would be prioritized over the phase
- Tonya made a motion. James 2nd. Ayes - Sarah, Rolando, Brandi, Donna – motion passed
- James made a motion to accept the initial bid for the flagpole installation. Tonya 2nd. Ayes - Rolando, Sarah, Brandi, Donna – motion passed

b. Discuss TIRZ and Tax Abatement as incentives

- City Council agreed to phase 1.
- We have the option to advise on location of a zone for tax abatements for new business. This also gives us the ability to offer incentives to attract new businesses

c. Discuss and Deliberate EDC Event Date

d. Discuss and Deliberate Event Focus

- Educational Focus (businesses learn about available incentives and resources)
- Promotional (event brings public attention to businesses/Rice)

- Rolando made a motion to make the next event promotional. James 2nd. Ayes - Donna, Tonya, Sarah, Brandi – motion passed

e. Discuss and Deliberate Event Date

- April 26th or after to allow time for planning

- Tonya made a motion to have the event on April 26th. Donna 2nd. Ayes - James, Sarah, Tonya, Rolando. – motion passed

f. Discuss and Deliberate Financial Statement

- See attachment

- Tonya made a motion to accept the financial statement. James 2nd. Ayes - Donna, Sarah, James, Rolando. – motion passed

g. Discuss and Deliberate 10/28/24 Meeting Minutes

- See attachment

- Tonya made a motion to accept the minutes. Donna 2nd. Ayes - James, Rolando, Brandi, Sarah – motion passed

7. Adjourn

- Tonya made a motion to adjourn. Donna 2nd. Ayes - James, Rolando, Brandi, Sarah. – motion passed

Attest: _____ Date: _____
Secretary

Attest: _____ Date: _____
Administrator