

THOMASTON-UPSON COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES OF THE
MARCH 22, 2021 BOARD MEETING CITY/COUNTY MEETING ROOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Norman Allen
Steve Rush, phone conference
Chase Fallin
Matt Smith
Lonnie Joyce

OTHERS PRESENT

Kyle Fletcher, Executive Director
Susan Hill, IDA Assistant
Johnnie Caldwell, Attorney

GUESTS

Dave Piper, WTGA Radio
Mark Andrews, Southern Crescent

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Fallin at 4:00 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Joyce, and approved to accept the February Minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Allen, and approved to accept the February Financial Reports.

BUSINESS

1. Directors Report

Mrs. Fletcher met with Neal Trice (Upson EMC), Norman Allen, Russell Thompson and representatives from Siimbiot to discuss an opportunity for renewable energy (solar panels) and broadband. The initiative (funded by private investors) would accelerate broadband connectivity in our community. We need to prioritize areas (CGB&T Park, parks, recreational complexes...) and identify what is currently available and send it to their engineers to determine feasibility.

Mrs. Fletcher met with ULMS Principal, Rhonda Gulley, to learn about the You Science program at ULMS. You Science is a 70-minute assessment that is given to 6th, 7th and 8th graders to learn where their strengths and interest lie with academics. This will hopefully provide guidance as they consider a pathway at ULHS. Mrs. Fletcher also reached out to ULHS CTAE Director, Ricky English, and he informed her that ULHS students will be given this assessment to help with scheduling and to expose them to post high school opportunities.

There was no submission for the RFP for site developer. The RFP closed 3/12/21.

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2. Grella Partnership Strategies Services and Fees

Mr. Rush open the discussion by stating that Grella Partnership has been paid and asked if the IDA wants to participate financial or not financial? A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Smith and approve to work with Grella Partnership for the 40 hours of free service for the audit of the web site and marketing materials. After the 40 hours Grella will come back with a price list to the board. Mrs. Fletcher is authorized to use her \$5,000.00 limit.

3. Business Retention & Expansion (BRE) Grant

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Smith and approved to awarded Crown Technology the \$5,000 Business Retention/Expansion Grant. The Thomaston facility manufactures "Preformed" thermoplastic pavement markings. The company plans to upgrade storm water drainage with the grant money.

4. Solutions Pest & Lawn Solar Site Plan

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Joyce to **TABLE** the request by Solutions to install solar panels on their property. The board needs a formal site plan before they can approve the project.

5. Six-Month Timeline

The board review the strategic plan time line and Mrs. Fletcher updated the board on the action item. A discussion was held to rewrite the RFP for a developer company in the Central GA. Business and Technology Park, and to arrange a meeting with Dayne Pryor, Panattoni Development Company, with Mr. Rush and Mr. Fallin and Mrs. Fletcher to discuss the option of site development in the park.

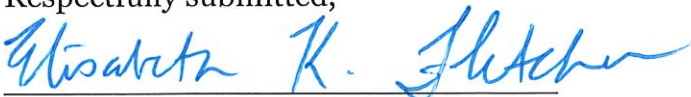
OTHER BUSINESS:

The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 26, 2021 at 4:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Elisabeth K. Fletcher, Secretary