



City of Rowlett

Work Session Minutes

4000 Main Street
Rowlett, TX 75088
www.rowlett.com

City Council

City of Rowlett City Council meetings are available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance, please contact the City Secretary at 972-412-6115 or write 4000 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas, 75088, at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Tuesday, November 11, 2014

5:30 P.M.

Annex Conference Room – 4004 Main Street

As authorized by Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, this meeting may be convened into closed Executive Session for the purpose of seeking confidential legal advice from the City Attorney on any agenda item herein.

The City of Rowlett reserves the right to reconvene, recess or realign the Regular Session or called Executive Session or order of business at any time prior to adjournment

Present: Mayor Gottel, Mayor Pro Tem Gallops, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Pankratz, Councilmember Bobbitt, Councilmember Dana-Bashian, Councilmember Sheffield and Councilmember van Bloemendaal

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Gallops called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

2. WORK SESSION (5:30 P.M.)

2A. Hear a presentation to propose options to amend the City's Sick Leave Payout Policy. (45 minutes)

John Murray, Director of Human Resources and Risk Management, reviewed the origins of the discussion through the budget process and the change to the vacation payout policy.

2B. Discuss Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB). (30 minutes)

This item was presented first.

Mehdi Riazi, with GRS, outlined the current OPEB offered by the City of Rowlett and the City's current liability. He presented points for and against pre-funding. Mitch Barker, with PARS, reviewed OPEB misconceptions and irrevocable trusts and presented points in favor of pre-funding. Alan Guard, Chief Financial Officer, presented the staff's recommendation of creating a fund with the difference between the ARC and PAYGO with a three year phase in for retirees to pay an increased portion of their premium's actual cost and lower the City's subsidy.

Mayor Gottel arrived at 6:00 p.m.

After a lengthy discussion, Council was in favor of the funding amount, but requested a lower increase over a longer period of time. It was the consensus of Council to consider this item at a later date with a five percent increase over five years.

Council took a short break at 6:45 p.m. and reconvened at 6:50 p.m.

- 2C.** Provide bi-annual update and discuss the City's Economic Development Five-year Strategic Plan. (60 minutes)

Jim Grabenhorst, Director of Economic Development, presented an update on the Plan regarding seven key areas: Downtown, North Shore, Healthy Living, Signature Gateway, Woodside Living, SH66/PGBT corridor, and City-wide. He reviewed the activity over the past two years and the amount of private investment along with the Economic Development Advisory Board and the Economic Development Incentive Policy and tools.

Council discussion regarding North Shore zoning review, City funds leveraged versus private investment, DART contribution, estimated population after development, and process for public presentation of incentive items.

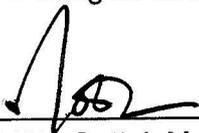
- 2D.** Eight Economic Proposals to Better Rowlett. (30 minutes)

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Pankratz presented eight proposals for the economic development process: metrics/accountability, revamped Economic Advisory Committee, North Shore zoning review, creation of a North Shore fund, more vetting for incentives – require two meetings prior to a vote; once a month economic development reporting to Council, formally support expansion of I-30, improved ethics for Councilmembers.

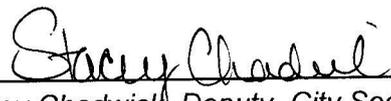
Council discussion regarding City policy versus operations, economic development status reporting, benchmarks for economic development, suggestions for the Economic Development Advisory Board, and the process for Council review of incentive proposals.

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.



Todd W. Gottel, Mayor



Stacey Chadwick, Deputy, City Secretary

Date Approved: November 18, 2014