

Minutes
Forney City Council and
Economic Development Corporation Board
Thursday, October 21, 2021
5:30 p.m. Special Joint Workshop
City Hall, 101 E. Main Street, Forney, Texas 75126

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. City Council

Mayor Lewis called the City Council to order at 5:35 p.m. Present were Mayor Amanda Lewis, Mayor Pro Tem James Traylor and Council Members Cecil Chambers, Sarah Salgado, Derald Cooper and James Roberson. Council Member Robbie Powers was absent. Also present were Interim City Manager Charles Daniels and City Attorney Jon Thatcher.

2. Economic Development Corporation Board

EDC Board President Joe Dan McBeth called the EDC Board to order at 5:35 p.m. Present were Joe Dan McBeth, Fred Alexander, Jessica Browning and Scott Burrus. EDC Members DeCarlo Coleman and JD Ferguson were absent. Also present was EDC Director Lynn Spencer and Assistant City Attorney Jennifer Barnes-Smith.

II. WORKSHOP DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Discussion regarding the EDC's budget; bylaws; and status and action plan; and all related issues.

EDC Director Lynn Spencer gave a presentation on *Economic Insights, Sales Tax Trends, Top Industry Performance, Industry Collections over the past two years, Employment in 2021, Forney Unemployment in 2021, April 2020 Census Highlights, Retailer 101 – What Do They Want?, Retailer Consumer Spending – What Certain Retailers are looking for, Permit Report – August 2021, Trends in Economic Development – TEDC - Oct 13-15, 2021 Action Plan & Budget Highlights, Status and Action – Industrial, Status and Action – Mixed Use Commercial, Status and Action – Retail-Grocery, Status and Action – Retail-Shops & Restaurants, Status & Action – Action Plan 2021-2022 Business Retention & Expansion, Status & Action – 2021-2022 Business Attraction & Development, Status & Action – 2021-2022 Quality of Place.*

Ms. Spencer stated that they will be looking at retail leakage, our daytime population – people working from home or going in to work elsewhere, or people moving to anywhere in the Country if they have that capability in working from home. Ms. Spencer told Mr. Daniels that she had received some complaints about the water pressure on the north side and asked if he could check into it.

Discussion ensued about the structure of the EDC – whether it should be part of the city or stand alone. They prefer to be self-sufficient again – no longer a part of the city. This item will be brought to the Council at the second meeting in November to take action, if necessary.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Lewis called for a motion to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. Council Member Roberson made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Cooper seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes and 1 absent [Powers].

EDC Member McBeth made a motion to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. and Member Burris seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 4 ayes, 2 absent [Ferguson and Coleman].

**PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORNEY,
TEXAS, this _____ day of _____, 2021.**

ATTEST:

Amanda Lewis, Mayor

Dorothy Brooks, City Secretary