

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Committee Minutes

June 29, 2021

Call to Order

Councilwoman Demetrus Coonrod, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:44 p.m. A quorum was present, including Council Chairman Chip Henderson, Council Vice-Chairman Ken Smith and Council members Jenny Hill, Darrin Ledford, Isiah Hester, Carol Berz, Raquetta Dotley, and Anthony Byrd. Others present were Emily O'Donnell, City Attorney, and Keren Campbell, Council Support Specialist.

Others in Attendance

Mayor's Office: Brent Goldberg, Chief of Staff; Finance: Daisy Madison, Chief Finance Officer; Economic Development: Jermaine Freeman, Interim Deputy Administrator; Chamber of Commerce: Charles Wood, Vice President of Economic Development; PUREGraphite: Robert Natter, Board of Directors, and Danny Deas, Chief Operating Officer.

Resolutions – Agenda Items 7B

Councilman Ledford asked Mr. Freeman to speak with him offline regarding the extending of contracts past the year-end mark. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Resolutions – Agenda Items 7C

Chairman Henderson confirmed with Mr. Goldberg that this item needed to be deferred until July 6th. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Next week, July 6, 2021

Resolutions – Agenda Items 7A & 7B

These items had been discussed at previous open meetings. Upon no questions or comments, the issues were closed.

Proposed PUREGraphite PILOT

Mr. Freeman and Mr. Wood gave a presentation on the "Proposed PUREGraphite PILOT" that covered the following:

- PILOT Background
- Economic Development Approval Process
- Economic Development PILOTS
- Existing Job PILOTS
- Other PILOT & Incentivized Projects
- Additional Benefits of these types of Economic Development Projects
- Looking Forward
- Additional Information
- PUREGraphite

- Project & Company Overview
- Strategic Opportunity
- PILOT Details
- Cost – Benefit
- Diverse Talent Needs
- Community Partnerships

A discussion ensued. Mr. Natter, Ms. Madison, Mr. Deas, Mr. Freeman and Mr. Wood addressed the following questions and concerns from the Council:

- Fees paid to City (Councilman Ledford)
- Use of fees (Councilman Ledford)
- Next Steps (Councilman Ledford)
- Timeline to get Project up and running (Councilman Ledford)
- Hiring Process (Councilman Ledford)
- But For Test (Councilman Ledford)
- Abatement Value – Real Value (Councilwoman Berz)
- Start of PILOT (Councilwoman Berz)
- Property Taxes (Councilwoman Berz)
- Process for unimproved taxes (Councilwoman Berz)
- Commitment to research and development (Councilwoman Hill)
- Base Material (Councilwoman Hill)
- Benefits/Savings (Councilwoman Hill)
- Consideration of What For test (Councilman Henderson)
- 300 Jobs (Councilman Henderson)
- Partnerships (Councilman Henderson)
- Claw Back Language (Councilman Ledford)
- Environmental Impacts (Councilman Byrd)
- Hiring Locally (Councilman Byrd)
- Background Checks (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Hiring Convicted Felons (Councilwoman Coonrod)

Upon no further questions or comments, the issues was closed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Councilwoman Coonrod adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.