

**Minutes**  
**York County Economic Development Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 16, 2023**  
**5:00pm**

The York County Economic Development Committee met on the above date for an Economic Development Committee Meeting at 5:00pm at 1070 Heckle Boulevard, Rock Hill, SC. The following Council members were present: Council member Allison Love, Council member Watts Huckabee and Council member Tom Audette. Also present were: Assistant County Manager, Kevin Madden, Economic Development Director, David Swenson, County Attorney Michael Kendree and Clerk to Council, Karen Brogdon.

Teresa Curtice and Jason Flora from Economic Development also attended.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Tom Audette

Economic Development Director, David Swenson provided information regarding the Economic Development Board Ordinance revisions and proposed the following:

- Public Sector – 8 (reducing the board from 18 to 13 members)
  - 3 members of the York County ED Committee of Council
  - 5 appointments representing manufacturing (2), service, real estate, financial services industry sectors
- Private Sector – 3
  - York County Growth Partners recommend three from their membership for approval by Council
- Education/Workforce Development – 2
  - President of Winthrop and President of York Tech (or designee)
- Ex-Officio: County Manager, York County Regional Chamber President (or designee), the Chief of the Catawba Indian Nation (or designee), the Clemson Extension Agribusiness Agent

Motion was made by Council member Watts Huckabee and seconded by Council member Tom Audette to approve the Economic Development Board structure as presented. Motion Carried.  
**Council member Allison Love voted in opposition.**

David Swenson presented information regarding Industrial Site Preparation – East York Industrial Park

- Western York County has very limited ED activity due to location and lack of market ready sites or buildings for ED Projects
- County owns ~31 acres of land within East York Industrial Park
- York Electric Cooperative has access to resource funds that support site clearing that increase the marketability and speed to market for Economic Development projects

Challenge:

- York County Ordinances do not allow site clearing without approved development plans.

The Committee would like to table this discussion, consult with the County Attorney for additional research and legal advice and staff will report back to the Committee with findings.

David Swenson presented Information regarding ED Project Development Fund

- Created in 2016 to support goals of strategic plan
- More efficient funding source than the general fund
- Investments (expenditures) require Council approval
- Current balance is \$2,946,118 (4-11-23)
  - Revenue has increase from \$46,108 (FY18/19) to \$1,133,620 (FY22/23)
- Previous or current investment
  - SC I-77 Alliance - \$116,929 for regional marketing last 3 years
  - YC Regional Chamber - \$100,000 annually for next 3 years
- Recommended Qualified Projects
  - Industrial Land Development
  - ED Project Grants
  - Strategic Initiative Grants
    - Workforce Development
    - Small Business & Entrepreneurship
  - Other considerations
    - Economic Development Department Funding
    - Targeted Market Studies
    - Speculative Industrial Buildings

Motion was made by Council member Watts Huckabee and seconded by Council member Allison Love to move forward to develop a plan regarding the Economic Development Fund Planning and report back to full Council. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Council member Watts Huckabee and seconded by Council member Allison Love to go into Executive Session to discuss Economic Development Project Updates. Motion Carried.

There were no matters for consideration following Executive Session.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Council member Watts Huckabee and seconded by Council member Allison Love. Motion Carried.