

Minutes
York County Economic Development Committee Meeting
Thursday, August 24, 2023
6:00pm

The York County Economic Development Committee met on the above date for an Economic Development Committee Meeting at 6:00pm 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: County Manager, David Hudspeth, Economic Development Director, David Swenson, and Clerk to Council, Karen Brogdon.

Teresa Curtice and Jason Flora from Economic Development also attended.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Tom Audette

Robert Alexander, Mike Geddings, and Doug Myer-Cuno with the Gravity Center presented information regarding the organization and the services that they offer to small businesses in York County. Mr. Alexander explained that the Gravity Center was designed to be a one-stop shop for entrepreneurs of all backgrounds.

Current programs at no cost to participants are:

- LaunchPad
- L.E.A.P.
- Venture Mentoring Systems (VMS)
- Education programming
- Events

Mr. Alexander stated that the not-for-profit Gravity Center is requesting funding from York County Economic Development or York County in the amount of \$100,000 annually for a three-year period. The strategy will be used for small business and entrepreneurs in 3 phases:

1. Foundation Building and Targeted Marketing
2. Accelerate, Integrate and Solidify
3. Sustaining and Resilience efforts

David Swenson, Economic Development Director stated that if these funds are approved by Council, they would come out of the Economic Development fund.

Motion was made by Council member Allison Love and seconded by Council member Watts Huckabee to recommend the funding request from the Gravity Center Foundation to full Council. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Council member Allison Love and seconded by Council member Watts Huckabee to approve the minutes from the May 16, 2023 Economic Development Committee meeting. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Council member Allison Love and seconded by Council member Watts Huckabee 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.