



CITY OF FRANKLIN

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

MINUTES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

May 11, 2021

Members Present:

Jake Sappenfield	President
Josh DeArmitt	Vice President
John Ditmars	Member
Lee Hodgen	Member
Shawn Taylor	Member

Others Present:

Dana Monson	Community Development Specialist
Rob Schafstall	Legal Counsel

Call to Order:

Jake Sappenfield called the meeting to order.

Roll Call & Determination of a Quorum

Approval of Minutes

Lee Hodgen made a motion to approve the April 13th minutes. Josh DeArmitt seconded. Passed unanimously, 5-0.

Old Business

C 2021-11 Brookside Chartlife (formerly Hetsco) – Dana Monson introduced the case. They've added a new line with a vaporizer. They did not have layoffs but are below projections for employees. They originally estimated 40 new employees by now.

Clint Smith, Chartlife director of operations, presented. He gave the background of their company. Their goal was to have a second shift in place by the first of February, but covid stopped that. The market is strong. They are going to develop two additional acres at the facility and hope to apply for that permitting by the end of the week. Ms. Monson requested a conversation with Mr. Smith after the meeting. Mr. Hodgen asked if their entire product is aluminum. Mr. Smith confirmed. Mr. Sappenfield asked if they will make their projected 15 new employees yet this year. Mr. Smith explained that if they can find the resources, the second shift should start with 20-25 employees. Mr. Sappenfield followed up to ask what the wages are for those employees. Their entry level positions begin at \$18/hour. Ms. Monson added that their average wage is \$30/hour.

John Ditmars made a motion to find Chartlife in compliance. Mr. Hodgen seconded. Passed unanimously, 5-0.

New Business

C 2021-24 Airtomic (Sargent Aerospace) – Ms. Monson introduced. Airtomic built their new facility on Linville Way and this is their abatement for that facility. Due to staff transition, they were late turning in their information. They have met all real and personal property improvements. Their average wage of \$31.25/hour is above their estimate. They are five short on their estimated employee count with total retention of their current employees.

Mike Callaway presented. He gave an overview of their company. Covid was a huge impact to their facility. They had a couple of layoffs along with a number of different furloughs. They have retained necessary facility and engineering senior staff. The company has stayed afloat with a focus on cargo. Many existing customers turned to cargo. Recently receipts have been going back up. There has been some investment for military. Future market changes are unpredictable. There are no plans for new employee hires this year. They do look to hire a new engineer in the future. Mr. Sappenfield wondered about the return of the traditional revenue stream. Mr. Callaway projects the year 2023 for some sense of normalcy.

Mr. DeArmitt moved to find Airtomic in compliance. Shawn Taylor seconded. Passed unanimously, 5-0.


Other Business

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion for adjournment was made.

Respectfully submitted this 8th day of June, 2021.



Jake Sappenfield, President

Shawn Taylor, Secretary