

SOUTHSIDE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

FOR

Special meeting of August 08th, 2022

The Southside Economic Development District had a special meeting at “315 Fittime365 Nutrition “found at 701 North 4th Street, Monroe LA, 71201.

The meeting was called to order at

The was called and the following were ...

1.	Tony Little	President	present
2.	Sam Moore III	Vice President	absent
3.	Marty Campbell	Secretary	present
4.	Tyrone Godin	Treasurer	present
5.	Otis Jones	commissioner	absent
6.	Roosevelt Wright	Commissioner	present
7.	Karl Dhaliwal	Commissioner	absent

Cooperative Endeavor Agreement:

It was moved by Commissioner Wright and seconded by Commissioner Little that a cooperative endeavor agreement between SEDD and Juneteenth United Minds of Joint Action Association be approved and authorized. The agreement will provide \$2,500 for 100 school uniforms for youth within the SEDD district to be paid from the \$75,000 state allocation.

The roll was called, and the following vote was recorded ...

1.	Tony Little	President	yes
2.	Marty Campbell	Secretary	yes
3.	Roosevelt Wright	commissioner	yes
4.	Tyrone Godin	commissioner	yes

The motion was approved.

Office Equipment:

It was moved by Commissioner Wright and seconded by Commissioner Little that the board authorize the purchase of up to \$5,000 in office equipment for SEDD to be paid from the \$75,000 state allocation. Commissioner Tyrone Goodin, treasurer, said he expected cost to be about half the maximum and that he would oversee the purchase.

The roll was called to record the vote and the following was recorded ...

1.	Tony Little	President	yes
2.	Tyrone Godin	Treasurer	yes

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| 3. Roosevelt Wright | commissioner | yes |
| 4. Marty Campbell | Secretary | yes |

The motion was approved.

Executive Director’s Review of Mayor’s TIF offer:

The President turned the meeting over to the Executive Director for the report on the TIF that was offered by the Mayor’s Administration.

Executive Director Theus said that the number in the document does support offer made by the administration since there was language guaranteeing the amount of **\$250,000.00** per year for the ad velarium tax and **\$250,000.00** per year for the sales tax TIF, a total of \$500,000

He said it also contained a prohibition against SEDD seeking additional sales taxes. That notwithstanding, Mr. Theus said he was pleased with the Mayor's TIF offer. "I can't say enough about it. We should be up at City hall kissing the mayor's feet for this particular TIF. It actually does everything for the district"

He said he also reviewed the TIF proposal prepared by Commissioner Wright and Attorney Nanci Summersgill. They both reflect the interest of SEDD with the exception that revisions from Mrs. Summersgill removed SEDD's ability to pursue additional taxes in the future.

"If I had my druthers, I rather the one Pastor Wright wrote (The president added, "with significant input from the community) because we can go back to the bond commission."

He said if the mayor would remove his prohibition against future sales taxes "there is absolutely nothing wrong with his TIF offer."

Attorney Summersgill’s TIF review

Attorney Summersgill reported that she has tried to work with the city to get an agreement but "I have been told that under no circumstances will mayor remove that language."

She said she reviewed the mayor's TIF and the one Commissioner Wright proposes and found some changes and additions.

She said SEDD has a choice to either accept the mayor's TIF or to independently pursue taxes to fund its program.

She said SEDD's responsibility is to create conditions that will attract investors. She said a higher sales and property taxes in the area may not be an incentive to locate in the SEDD district.

President Little said SEDD will make a decision concerning whether to accept the mayor's proposal or adopt its own and forwarded it to the council. "The council according to the legislation gives the Tif not the mayor. If they want to their responsibility to the mayor that's fine. We are going to respond back to the council which is the legal entity in which should respond back."

He said we would be short sighting ourselves if we did not send it to the council and "allow them to do their obligation."

Commissioner Wright's Review of the Mayor’s TIF offer

Commissioner Wright said he reviewed the July 1, 2021 TIF offer from the mayor, and the verbiage did not reflect the \$1 million annual promise the mayor made verbally, but instead it only promised a maximum \$12.5 million over 25 years. He said the mayor's plan called for automatic termination of the TIF if the SEDD board ever decided to pursue additional taxes. He said it also required the mayor's consent, which could be withheld for any reason, before SEDD could have its funds transferred.

He said he evaluated the most recent plan offered by the mayor which did not take into account that the city council had approved our 25-year plan.

He said he rewrote the TIF guaranteeing the \$25 million, with no prohibitions against future taxes, authorizing funds to be used to implement our plan, and not requiring the mayor's signature for funds transfer.

He urged the board to approve its own plan and send it to the council for an up or down vote

Approval of SEDD TIF request

On Motion of President Little and seconded by Commissioner Wright the board unanimously approved sending its TIF request as detailed by Pastor Wright to the Monroe City Council.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Public Participation:

Ms. Roberson (Black Chamber) spoke and said she does not take it well when someone offers you something with a "take or leave it" mentality, "then we have a problem" (Ms. Roberson).

Ms. Roberson said that the Black Chamber will support whatever the SEDD Board supports, however she suggested we do so in uniformity.

Commissioner Goodin spoke and asked the question of what is the purpose of SEDD?

Commissioner Campbell spoke and said to make money you must spend money also; the tax was something to consider even though it might cost everyone something.

Public Participation

Ms. TJ Stevenson – spoke on the crime issue in her community which is Adam Street.

Ms. Emma West - Spoke on the bad sewer problems in her community which consists of South Second Street.

Motion to adjourn:

A motion to adjourn was offered by the President and seconded by commissioner Wright and the vote was unanimously approved.

Closing prayer:

Closing prayer was offer by commissioner Campbell.