

**DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF ABILENE, INC.**  
**JOINT MEETING WITH ABILENE CITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**  
**May 12, 2015**

**DCOA MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dave Copeland      Dani Ramsay      John Beckham      Jack Rich

**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Shane Price    Anthony Williams    Jay Hardaway      Kyle McAlister      Steve Savage

**STAFF PRESENT:**

David Vela    Dan Santee    Don Green    Danette Dunlap  
Kent Sharp    Kim Tarrant    Akane Thaxton

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Grady Barr, Yvonne Batts, Brian Bessent, Brian Bethel, Charles Black, Greg Blair, Gray Bridwell, Dale Boecker, Ron Butler, Charles Byron, Paul Cannon, Casey Curnutt, Rick Denbow, Mike Dunnahoo, Carol Dupree, Billy Edwards, Ray Ferguson, Larry Gill, Woody Gilliland, Gail Gregg, Russell Guthrie, Sandra Harper, Seaton Higginbotham, Justin Jaworski, Erik Johnson, Iris Kammerdiener, Joe Kimble, Kelly Kinard, Bruce Kreidler, Tim Lancaster, Gail Lawrence, Dee Moore, Don Mark Nickson, Winston Ohlhausen, Mary Ross, Ben Russell, Bill Senter, Jason Smith, Jimmy Tittle, Fred Lee Hughes, Adam Turner, James Webster, Judy Wilhelm, Frances Williamson, H. C. Zachry, James (Gen Pop)  
Guests in attendance include board members from Abilene Industrial Foundation.

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**1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:** Shane Price, ~~City Councilman~~ Deputy Mayor Pro Tem, called the meeting to order for the Abilene City Council and Dave Copeland, DCOA President, called the meeting to order for DCOA at 10:00 a.m. at the Civic Center Upstairs Conference Room, 1100 N. 6th St., 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Abilene Texas.

**2. PRESENTATION FROM THE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE:** A slideshow presentation was given by Kent Sharp, CEO of the DCOA, Jason Smith, President of Abilene Chamber of Commerce and President of Abilene Industrial Foundation, and Ray Ferguson, the DCOA's Strategic Planning committee chairman. Mr. Sharp explained the definition of economic development, its purpose, and the benefit of the DCOA. Mr. Smith presented the trends of economic development, the Chamber's involvement in business recruitment, and their efforts to attract more companies to Abilene. Mr. Ferguson presented the activities of the Strategic Planning committee and its goals. The Strategic Planning Committee


received nine proposals in response to an RFP to develop a strategic plan for Abilene future economic development efforts. Representatives from four of firms were interviewed, and the committee recommends the DCOA contract with TIP Strategies as the best firm to develop a workable strategic plan for Abilene.

**3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH TIP STRATEGIES, INC. FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN ABILENE:** TIP Strategies proposed completion of the economic development strategic plan for Abilene within six months. The requested funds to enter into a contract with TIP are \$130,000 which includes a base fee of \$125,000 and \$5,000 for reimbursable costs. The contract includes a follow up to evaluate Abilene's performance at the end of the first year of the implementation of the plan.

The President Dave Copeland answered questions from the audience before requesting a motion and vote from the board members in attendance.

Jack Rich moved to approve resolution DCOA-2015.11 authorizing a contract with TIP Strategies, Inc. and funding of \$130,000 which includes a \$125,000 base fee and \$5,000 in reimbursable costs. Dani Ramsay seconded and motion carried.

**4. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by City ~~Councilman~~ Deputy Mayor Pro Tem, Shane Price and DCOA President, Dave Copeland.



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Dave Copeland, President