

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF WALLER
CITY OF HEMPSTEAD**

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 26th day of June A.D., 2023 at 10:00 A.M. the City Council met in a Special Meeting at the Hempstead City Hall, 1125 Austin Street, Hempstead, Texas, there being present, to-wit:

Erica Gillum, Mayor
Lonnie Garfield, Mayor Pro-Tem
Cindy Pearce, Councilmember
Mildred Jefferson, Councilmember
Nora Hodges, Councilmember
Karon E. Neal, Councilmember

Bridgette Begle, City Attorney
Sabrina Alvarez, City Secretary

1. Call to order and invocation.

Mayor Erica Gillum called the meeting to order at 10:06 A.M. and Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield gave the invocation.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

3. Public Comments.

No Public Comments

4. Consideration and action on hiring GSLI as the consulting team for Hempstead EDC.

Mayor Erica Gillum stated that she has met with Eric and Amanda from GLSI, and they have worked diligently to reach out to the possible growth. The website is almost completed for the EDC. The applications that were received for the Economic Development Director is nowhere near the knowledge and expertise that the EDC would get from GSLI. Mayor Erica Gillum stated that GLSI would everything from start to close. The Hempstead Economic Development Boards approved GSLI for the consulting. Amanda with GSLI stated that she had to make a correction to the Mayor's statement, they will never close on a deal themselves, the final decision will be Mayor Erica Gillum and EDC Administrator Lilliana. They will never close a deal themselves they will put the person in front of the correct people and with their tools they will go forward. Eric stated that they are a unique opportunity for Hempstead. He stated Hempstead has a lot of potential. GLSI representatives did a representation of the upcoming website. Councilmember Cindy Pearce asked what has been the smallest population with which they have worked? Amanda with GLSI answered with 3K population. Councilmember Cindy Pearce asked who has access to the website. Amanda answered that the EDC Administrator Lilliana is the point of contact. Attorney Bridgette

Begle stated that GLSI will be in the Directors position. Amanda stated that the EDC Administrator Lilliana will be the face. Councilmember Cindy Pearce asked what would be the additional investment? Eric stated that right now it would be industrial, commercial, and retail. GLSI has 75 to 100 projects per year. Councilmember Nora Hodges stated that she was impressed by the website and all their expertise.

5. Adjourn City Council Meeting.

There being no further business, Councilmember Mildred Jefferson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:08 A.M. Councilmember Nora Hodges seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 17th day of July, A.D., 2023.

APPROVED:

/s/: Erica Gillum, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/: Sabrina Alvarez, City Secretary