

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

TO: THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP AND TO ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

Notice is hereby given that the Economic Development Committee of The Woodlands Township will hold a Meeting on **February 1, 2021, at 3 p.m.**, via video conference, which may be viewed online at <http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/778/Meeting-Videos>, for the following purposes:

1. Call meeting to order;
2. Receive, consider and act upon adoption of the meeting agenda;
3. Public Comment;*
4. Receive, consider and act upon minutes from July 22, 2020 meeting;
5. Receive, consider and act upon selecting a Chair for the Committee for 2021;
6. Receive, consider and act upon Cultural Fund Grant Program Guidelines and Eligibility;

CLOSED MEETING (if applicable)

7. Recess to Executive Session to discuss matters relating to real property pursuant to §551.072, Texas Government Code; deliberation of economic development negotiations pursuant to §551.087, Texas Government Code; discuss personnel matters pursuant to §551.074, Texas Government Code; discuss IT network or critical infrastructure security pursuant to §551.089, Texas Government Code; and to consult with The Woodlands Township's attorney pursuant to §551.071, Texas Government Code;
8. Reconvene in Public Session;
9. Receive, consider and act upon the next meeting date of the Economic Development Committee;
10. Consideration of items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting;
11. Adjournment.



President/General Manager for The Woodlands Township

*During the February 1, 2021 videoconference Economic Development Committee meeting, members of the public may provide public comment by calling 346-248-7799 or 888-788-0099 (toll-free), then enter ID 827 0775 2046 #. Calls will be taken in the order the calls are received and only during the “public comment” agenda item. Alternatively, you may participate in the public comment portion of the meeting through the Zoom desktop client, web client, or mobile app, which are free of charge and accessible through the following link
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82707752046?pwd=UjUrR3BoREpObjcwSElWY0ZjbjlZz09VEFiUWFvYm5raC9BeXh4Tzlsc1J0UT09> Passcode: 212021. This information is active only for this Committee meeting. New public comment phone numbers/links will be issued for each future meeting held via videoconference during the public health pandemic emergency.



Economic Development Committee Meeting

Date: 02/01/2021

SUBJECT MATTER:

Public comment;*

BACKGROUND:

Modified Guidelines for Public Comments to be used when the Committee is meeting via videoconference during the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency

On March 16, 2020, Texas Governor Greg Abbott temporarily suspended certain requirements within the Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA) to help reduce the potential transmission of COVID-19. These provisions relate to the public health pandemic emergency. The following guidelines will be used to allow the public to provide public comment in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and have been modified for the purpose of the Board's and Committee's meetings held by videoconference.

Participation by members of the public in open meetings of the Economic Development Committee is welcomed and encouraged. A "public comment" agenda item will be included at the beginning of all regular Economic Development Committee meeting agendas. To produce the most efficient and effective process for allowing constituents to address the Board Committee, the Economic Development Committee accepts public comments in accordance with State Law and the following the Township Board of Directors Guidelines for Participating in Public Meetings, which have been adjusted due to the use of videoconferencing during the COVID-19 pandemic emergency:

- Each person wishing to address the Committee must call in via phone prior to the conclusion of the "public comments" agenda item. The phone number will be included on the posted agenda.
- Individuals who wish to make general announcements, address a topic that is not included on the agenda, or who wish to address specific agenda items must do so under the "public comments" agenda item at the beginning of the meeting.
- Individuals will be limited to a total of three (3) minutes regardless of the number of topics, and individuals who provide and utilize a translator will be limited to a total of six (6) minutes.
- Speakers will be taken in the order in which they call in.
- The Committee consists of three Woodlands Township Directors. State Law prohibits the Board or Committee from formally acting on a specific item or public comment unless it appears on the posted agenda. Therefore, any Committee discussion of items not included on the posted agenda is limited to questions for clarification and whether or not the item should be placed on a future Committee agenda.
- Speakers may express their opinions or viewpoints on an issue, but are not permitted to participate in the debate on an issue.
- Speakers will not use profanity.
- Comments from speakers can be made to the Board Committee as a whole or to an individual director(s).
- Consistent with in-person meetings, public comment will only be taken during the "public comments"

agenda item.

Additional notes for those wishing to call in for Public Comment:

- When calling in, you will be placed in a queue, and you will be called upon in the order in which your call was received, and only during the “public comments” agenda item.
- When you are placed in the queue, your microphone is muted. When it is your turn to provide public comment, you will receive a prompt to unmute your microphone by **pressing *6**.
- If you receive a busy signal when calling in and the “public comments” period has not concluded, please hang up and call back. The Board’s Committee will make every effort to ensure that all callers have an opportunity to speak.
- If you are watching the video of the meeting when you are called upon to speak, please mute the volume on your computer before speaking to avoid audio feedback for Committee members. There is a brief lag between the audio and video feeds.
- After you have been called upon, you may disconnect from the phone call and continue to watch through the live stream broadcast at www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/778/Meeting-Videos.

To call in to the February 1, 2021 Economic Development Committee meeting to provide public comment, you may call any of the numbers listed below. For the best quality audio, it is recommended to use one of the local numbers:

- 1-346-248-7799 or
- 1 253 215 8782 or
- 1 669 900 9128 or
- 1 301 715 8592 or
- 1 312 626 6799 or
- 1 646 558 8656 or
- 877 853 5247 (Toll Free) or 888 788 0099 (Toll Free)

Once you have connected, you will need to enter ID: 827 0775 2046, then enter the pound sign “#” on your telephone keypad.

Alternatively, you may participate in the public comment portion of the meeting through the Zoom desktop client, web client, or mobile app, which are free of charge and accessible through the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82707752046?pwd=UjUrR3BoREpObjcwSElWY0ZjbjlzZz09VEFiUWFvYm5raC9BeXh4TzlsclJ0UT09> Passcode: 212021.

These call in numbers and the Zoom link are active for this meeting only. New information will be issued for each future meeting held via videoconference during the public health pandemic emergency.

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A