

Keene Economic Development Corporation (Type B) Board Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2026 at 3:30 PM

Keene City Hall - Robert G. Cooper Council Chamber
1000 N. Old Betsy Rd., Cleburne, Texas 76031

Recorded Live Stream at <https://www.youtube.com/@cityofkeenetexas>

Members Present: President Ricky Stephens, Vice President Daniel Gathings, and Board Members Donnie Beeson, Alma Davila, Gary Heinrich, Phillip Jackson, and Nellie Youngberg

Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Jonathan Seitz, Don Martin, Holly Russell, and Cari Warwick

1. Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

President Stephens called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

2. President's Remarks

Keene ISD will be hosting a groundbreaking on their half-mile Thompson Nature Trail on October 2, at 1:00 p.m.

3. City Administration Remarks

Don Martin, Director of Development and Neighborhood Services, shared that lights are being installed at Elisa Carver Park, and dirt is moving at Luz Arauzo Park. The ballfield #1 is near completion and needs compaction and new bases to be completed.

4. Public Comments

No comments made.

5. Public Hearing

There was no public hearing scheduled for this meeting date.

6. General

A. Review, discuss and take possible action on the selection of a skate park proposal from American Ramp Company and SPA Skateparks.

Cari Warwick, Management Assistant, gave an overview of the American Ramp Company concept for a skate park since they were unable to attend this meeting. The concept is roughly 4,000 square feet. Their concept was just under \$300,000. Yann Curtis from SPA Skateparks presented their proposal of a 3,500-4,000 square foot skate park. They have designed several in the area, including the new skatepark in Cleburne. Their design proposal is also for the \$300,000 budget, and have not ever gone over budget or asked for change-orders on past projects. They recommend multi-terrain design to offer varied experience for users.

A motion was made to accept the proposal SPA Skateparks from for the skate park project, and seconded. The motion carried.

Motion made by Beeson, Seconded by Youngberg.

Voting Yea: President Stephens, Beeson, Vice President Gathings, Heinrich, Youngberg, Jackson, Davila

B. Discuss locations for potential sidewalk locations for future improvements or additions to the city, and give direction to staff.

President Stephens mentioned the school's nature trail that is being developed, and wishes that all the parks are connect by sidewalks at some point. There were questions about areas on Fourth Street that were not in past discussions and where possible crosswalks might be needed. There was consensus to complete sidewalks that serve the school children to get to school safely, and then pursue a way to connect the SWAU gym to the ballfields.

C. Review, discuss, and consider the minutes of the regular Keene EDC (Type B) Board meeting held on July 21, 2026.

A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented, and seconded. The motion carried.

Motion made by Heinrich, Seconded by Jackson.

Voting Yea: President Stephens, Beeson, Vice President Gathings, Heinrich, Youngberg, Jackson, Davila

7. Executive Session

There was no recess into Executive Session at this meeting.

8. Reconvene into Open Session

There were no items needing action.

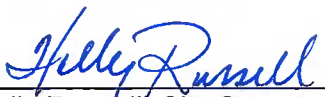
9. Requests for Future Agenda Items

Administration will speak with TxDOT about a crosswalk at Fourth Street and FM 2280 and will report back to the Board on this request.

10. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, President Stephens adjourned the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

Approved this the 15 day of September 2026.



Holly Russell, City Secretary



Presiding Member