



Keene Economic Development Corporation (Type B) Board Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2026 at 3:30 PM

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

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

Members Present: President Ricky Stephens, Donnie Beeson, Phillip Jackson, and Nellie Youngberg

Members Absent: Vice President Daniel Gathings, Alma Davila, Gary Heinrich

City staff present: Jonathan Seitz, Don Martin, Holly Russell, Chief Dan Warner, 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

None were made.

3. City Administration Remarks

Don Martin, Director of Neighborhood and Development Services, shared that the City is working with the Joshua Youth Sports Association to get a softball program going in return for assistance with rehabbing the baseball fields.

4. Public Comments

None were made.

5. Public Hearing

Public hearing and take possible action regarding the following items.

- A. *Hold a public hearing to hear citizen comments and hold a discussion on the Keene Community Development Corporation, a Type "B" Economic Development Corporation, proposed use of sales tax proceeds to fund the following projects:*

- 1. To provide funds for the purchase and installation of secondary outdoor warning sirens in an amount not to exceed \$100,000; and*
- 2. To provide funds for the purchase and installation of a additional lighting to the Elisa Carver Park complex and parking in an amount not to exceed \$194,000.*

President Stephens opened the public hearing at 3:42 p.m.

Chief Warner gave an overview of the project, the costs, and noted that new quotes would have to be obtained.

Paul Gnadt, resident of Keene, spoke in favor of this project.

A representative from Fonroche Lighting was present to give information on on their lights and to answer any questions about the outdoor lighting. It is a "plug and play" solution since they are solar powered. It does not require digging or trenching.

President Stephens closed the public hearing at 3:48 p.m.

- B. Following the public hearing, the Keene EDC (Type B) Board may review, consider, or take possible action on the public hearing items.*

A motion was made to approve these projects and recommend to Council the approval of a resolution allowing the EDC-B Board to provide funds for the purchase and installation of two secondary outdoor warning sirens in an amount not to exceed \$100,000, and was seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Beeson Second: Youngberg

Voting For: Stephens, Beeson, Jackson, Youngberg

A motion was made to provide funds for the purchase and installation of additional lighting to the Elisa Carver Park complex and parking lot in an amount not to exceed \$194,000; and seconded. After some discussion, the motion was amended to fund the addition of lights to Elisa Carver Park parking lot and soccer fields, and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion, amended motion: Beeson

Second to both motions: Youngberg

Voting For: Stephens, Beeson, Jackson, Youngberg

Mr. Beeson asked for a quote to light the walking trail using the streetlights rather than the bollards.

6. General

- A. Review, discuss, and consider the minutes of the regular Keene EDC (Type B) Board meeting held on December 16, 2025.*

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

Motion: Youngberg

Second: Beeson

Voting For: Stephens, Beeson, Jackson, Youngberg

- B. Receive an update on current projects: Luz Arauzo Park, Skate Park, Community Gardens, Matthew Davis Memorial Bench.*

Cari Warwick, Management Assistant, gave a report on the status of ongoing, open projects. Skate Park RFP are under review by legal and Finance. Community Garden is under review by legal, Pocket Park/Luz Arauzo Park is under research for fence and sidewalk quotes, the Matthew Davis Memorial Bench is nearing completion. No action was taken. The Board directed staff to look at lighting, swing set, fence, trash cans, picnic tables, groundcover for under \$45,000.

- C. Review, discuss, and consider recommending to Council the reappointments of Donnie Beeson, Daniel Gathings, Gary Heinrich, and Nellie Youngberg to the EDC Type B Board for a two-year term ending March 2028, or consider the recommendation of a new appointment*

from applications that have previously been received from Charles Easley, Bud Findley, and Vincent Castro.

A motion was made to recommend to Council the reappointments of Donnie Beeson, Daniel Gathings, Gary Heinrich, and Nellie Youngberg to the EDC Type B Board for a two-year term ending March 2028; and seconded. The motion carried.

Motion: Jackson

Second: Youngberg

Voting For: Stephens, Beeson, Jackson, Youngberg

7. Executive Session

There was no recess to Executive Session.

8. Reconvene into Open Session

There was no action to be taken.

9. Requests for Future Agenda Items

There were no requests made.

10. Adjourn

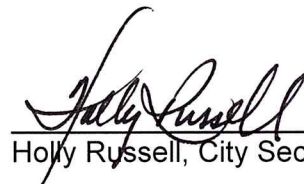
There being no further business, President Stephens adjourned the meeting at 4:16 p.m.

Approved on this 21st day of April 2026.



Presiding Officer

Attest:



Holly Russell, City Secretary