

August 10, 2018

Open Letter; Agenda Report Follow-up regarding Bradford Built, Inc.

For all of us concerned:

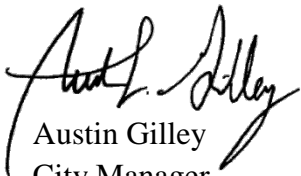
The City received today notice from Dickinson County Economic Development Corporation that Brad Portenier has decided to withdraw his plans to construct a facility here in Abilene.

I am confident that given the time and opportunity, the City could have met the needs of both Bradford Built and the community in a way that would have ensured long-term success for everyone. Developments like this can be bumpy and unpredictable. We knew at the outset we would have some challenges to overcome. It appears the City was not in a position to take advantage of the opportunity presented by Bradford Built in the timeframe that Bradford Built needed in order to satisfy its own internal business planning needs.

While this is unfortunate, the process has helped highlight the City's commitment to responsible growth and the need to make operational and infrastructure investments to ensure that future opportunities remain possible.

All the reasons that Bradford Built was attracted to Abilene are still here, and the City is ready and willing to work hard for good opportunities. We are excited to continue working with Great Plains on the announced expansion, and we anticipate having that agreement to the City Commission very soon.

Thank you,



Austin Gilley
City Manager

austin@abilenecityhall.com

