

## MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL RETREAT

AMES, IOWA

JANUARY 23, 2016

The Ames City Council was called to order by Mayor Ann Campbell at 8:36 a.m. on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2016, in Parks and Recreation Office, 1500 Gateway Hills Park Drive. City Council Members present were Bronwyn Beatty-Hansen, Gloria Betcher, Amber Corrieri, Tim Gartin, Chris Nelson, and Peter Orazem. City Manager Steven Schainker, City Attorney Judy Parks, Assistant City Manager Bob Kindred, and Management Analyst Brian Phillips were also present. *Ex officio* Council Member Sam Schulte was also present.

**TEAM-BUILDING AND ROLES:** City Manager Steve Schainker welcomed the City Council to the goal-setting retreat. Mr. Schainker reviewed the purpose for this retreat and reviewed the agenda. Assistant City Manager Bob Kindred led the Council Members through a team-building exercise.

Mayor Campbell led a discussion for City Council Members to share advice for Council Member Beatty-Hansen. Mayor Campbell then asked Council Member Beatty-Hansen and Council Member Nelson to share comments they heard on the campaign trail. The Mayor discussed her role in leading the City Council and asked Council Members for input as to how to manage the meeting length.

Mayor Campbell asked Mr. Schainker to review what makes an effective decision-making body, a discussion held during the last goal-setting session. Mr. Schainker then reviewed the role of City staff in relation to the City Council.

The meeting recessed at 11:10 a.m. and resumed at 11:24 a.m.

**2016-2017 PRIORITIES:** Following a team-building exercise, Mr. Schainker turned the City Council's attention to establishing priorities for 2016-2017. He reviewed the distinctions between goals, objectives, and tasks. Mr. Schainker invited the Council Members to share initiatives, which were written on flipchart paper and placed along the wall of the room. The Council Members were given eight votes to use for each of the initiatives. A list of initiatives remaining was then established, to include:

- Define the public's role (codes, incentives) in repurposed properties (e.g., Sheldon Munn, Crawford, Edwards, Lincoln Way Corridor, School District)
- Indoor Pool/Recreation Facility – Explore partnering with MGMC, ACSD, Heartland, ISU
- Human Services outcomes measurement system (and still need needs assessment)
- Strengthen Downtown and Campustown – explore public/private improvements for public/private space (e.g., entertainment, parking, housing, amenities)

- Trail system park connections – public/private, target dates, funding
- Trail connection to the Heart of Iowa trail (support Story County; Worle trail in town)
- Improve planning processes – predictable, more strategic, more timely
- Economic development – E industrial annexation and utilities
- Transportation safety – pedestrians in Campustown
- Redevelopment of Old Middle School site for affordable housing and 6<sup>th</sup> Street property
- Solar power – create a community solar project
- Standardize Campustown parking (fees, standardize regulations, and surrounding neighborhoods)

Mr. Schainker indicated that City staff would develop proposals for grouping these initiatives and developing them into a draft set of goals, objectives, and tasks. The proposal would then be returned to the City Council for discussion at another retreat.

**OTHER ISSUES THAT THE MEMBERS WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS:** Council Member Betcher raised a concern about referring issues related to the Land Use Policy Plan as the City was moving toward a comprehensive re-write of that plan.

It was moved by Corrieri and seconded by Orazem to request a memo from staff outlining how many requests and referrals for Land Use Policy Plan amendments were received in the last year and when they were received.

Vote on Motion: 6-0. Motion carried unanimously.

**WRAP UP:** Council Member Gartin mentioned the Story County Cornerstone to Capstone process and indicated that he would be sending the feedback form to the City Council. He also reminded the City Council that any questions regarding the CyRide incident should be referred to Legal.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting concluded at 2:18 p.m.