



**CITY COUNCIL
PLANNING AND STRATEGY SESSION
MINUTES**

JULY 8-9, 2016

**DAY ONE
FRIDAY, JULY 8, 2016**

PRESENT: Mayor Gottel, Mayor Pro Tem Dana-Bashian, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Sheffield, Councilmember Bobbitt, Councilmember van Bloemendaal, Councilmember Brown, Councilmember Hargrave

Mayor Gottel called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Opening remarks and review of retreat goals

Mayor Gottel took a moment to reflect on the shootings of Dallas and DART officers the previous evening. Brian Funderburk, City Manager, reviewed the agenda for the next two days and the rules of engagement.

A healthy and sustainable water & sewer system

Kim Wilson, Director of Financial Services, reviewed the Utility Fund, including requirements, financial strength, management, goals and strategies, and the impact of those goals and strategies. She reviewed the meter reading system, its history, system update and associated costs, and customer benefits. Mr. Funderburk reviewed the water/wastewater rates and stated that funds for a rate study would be included in the proposed budget for FY17.

Break at 10:33 a.m. Reconvene at 10:50 a.m.

Future bond program strategies

Jim Proce, Assistant City Manager, reviewed the 2015 bond program and timeline, accelerated projects, public safety training center, fiber optic network, review of the street projects, Kids Kingdom, the Rowlett Community Centre renovation, Katy Railroad Park soccer fields, and next steps for the CIP program.

Break at 12:09 p.m. Reconvene at 12:26 p.m.

Impacts of the tornado (working lunch)

Mr. Funderburk reviewed what the City has been through as a result of the tornado, including debris removal and associated costs for the recovery after the tornado. He reviewed options for for re-allocation of funds that had been earmarked for the tornado.

Break at 1:17 p.m. Reconvene at 1:35 p.m.

Tax values, priorities & strategies

Mr. Funderburk and Ms. Wilson reviewed the current development underway, the economic and development impact of Bayside, the cumulative change in taxable value, the projected taxable value, property tax value estimates, allocation of property taxes in proposed budget, the timing of a possible tax rate decrease, future facilities, and infrastructure needs.

Break at 2:55 p.m. Reconvene at 3:10 p.m.

Building better neighborhoods

Marc Kurbansade, Director of Development Services, reviewed options for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2016 plan year and the consensus of Council to continue with the 65% for Public Facilities, 15% for Public Services, and 20% Administration. He touched on Realize Rowlett 2020 and reviewing the areas that had been identified as "opportunity" areas. Mr. Kurbansade stated there would be a survey of developers and their thoughts on Form-based code and the processes thus far. Upon completion of that survey, there will be another joint meeting between City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

There was further discussion regarding a possible residential habitation and rental standards program being established. Staff will research other cities as comparison.

Wrap-up & closing remarks

Adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

DAY 2 SATURDAY, JULY 9, 2016

PRESENT: Mayor Gottel, Mayor Pro Tem Dana-Bashian, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Sheffield, Councilmember Bobbitt, Councilmember van Bloemendaal, Councilmember Brown, Councilmember Hargrave

Mayor Gottel called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.

On Your Radar – budget planning topics & strategies

Mr. Funderburk reviewed some of the requests for the upcoming budget that were submitted from the Senior Advisory Board and the Golf Advisory Board, the upcoming renewal option for the Waste Management contract, the status of the employee medical insurance plan, and topics of discussion for the 2017 budget.

Break at 12:00 p.m. Reconvene at 12:10 p.m.

Council governance topics (working lunch)

Laura Hallmark, City Secretary, reviewed proposed changes to the City Council's Rules of Procedure and the City of Rowlett's Boards and Commissions Handbook. Council discussed proposed changes and will consider adoption at an upcoming Council meeting.

Break at 1:55 p.m. Reconvene at 2:09 p.m.

Review status of FY2016 Work Plan

Mr. Proce reviewed the status of the current Work Plan.

Discuss topics and strategies for FY2017 Work Plan

Councilmembers submitted topics for the next year's Council Work Plan and ranked their order of preference. The results will be compiled and returned to Council for further discussion at a future meeting.

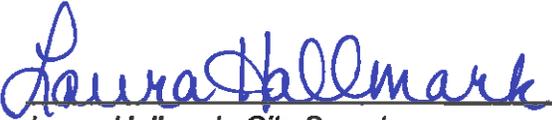
Wrap-up & closing remarks

Mr. Funderburk and Mayor Gottel thanked everyone for their time and participation.

Adjourn at 4:48 p.m.



Todd W. Gottel, Mayor



Laura Hallmark, City Secretary

Date Approved: July 19, 2016

