

City Council Study Session

May 11, 2015 - 5:30 PM

Auburn City Hall

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Holman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Auburn City Hall, 25 West Main Street in Auburn.

A. Roll Call

City Councilmembers present: Deputy Mayor Holman, Rich Wagner, Bill Pelosa, Largo Wales, Wayne Osborne, Claude DaCorsi and Yolanda Trout.

City officials and staff members present included: Mayor Nancy Backus, City Attorney Daniel B. Heid, Police Chief Bob Lee, IT Operations Manager Ashley Riggs, IT Customer Support Manager Reba Stowe, Urban Design Planner Lauren Flemister, Assistant Director of Engineering and City Engineer Ingrid Gaub, Assistant Director of Community Development Jeff Tate, Public Affairs and Marketing Liaison Dana Hinman, Director of Parks, Arts and Recreation Daryl Faber, Economic Development Manager Doug Lein, Traffic Engineer James Webb and City Clerk Danielle Daskam.

II. Announcements, Reports, and Presentations

- A. Green River College's Capital Project, Aviation Trades Building - 15 Minute Presentation / 5 Minute Q&A
Dr. Eileen Ely, President of Green River College
Sam Ball, Director of Capital Projects for Green River College

Dr. Ely introduced Sam Ball who presented Council with a PowerPoint on the new Green River College facility on D Street near Lowe's. The new site is being developed by Latitude Development. The building will be 30,000 square feet and will house the Aviation Program along with the Washington Environmental Training Center, the Washington Certification Center, the Adult Basic Education classroom, the General Education classroom, a small business assistance center, and a student affairs office. The site will be completely developed the end of June 2015. Green River College will start construction in July and the project is scheduled to be completed in June 2016 with classes being held at this location the fall of 2016. The estimated construction cost is \$10 million with a total project cost of \$20 million.

III. AGENDA ITEMS FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- A. Urban Design Presentation - 15 Minute Presentation /15 Min Q&A (Flemister)

Urban Design Planner Flemister provided Council with a presentation on Urban Design. She explained it is an interdisciplinary field that unites all the built environmental professions, including urban planning, landscape architecture, architecture, civil engineering and municipal engineering. Urban Design is the coming together of the different systems and how they work together. She explained one can see the scales of urban design by region, neighborhood, and blocks; and gives form, shape, and character to groups of buildings, whole neighborhoods, and regions. The goal is about making connections between people and places, movement and urban form, nature and the built fabric drawing together the many strands of placemaking, environmental stewardship, social equity, and economic viability.

Councilmember Wagner encouraged staff to spend more time on economic viability; for example, does a wider sidewalk have an economic advantage.

Urban Design Planner Flemister stated the Façade Improvement Program has \$200,000.00 available for façade improvement grants with special emphasis on Main Street and the Business Improvement Area. There is also historic preservation and funding available for rehabilitation.

Councilmember Osborne asked about the Comprehensive Plan amendments that are required to move forward with this project. Urban Design Planner Flemister stated staff are currently working on this process and will be done around the end of 2015.

B. 2016-2021 Transportation Improvement Plan Update - 10 Min Presentation/10 Min Q&A (Para)

Traffic Engineer Webb presented Council with the annual update of the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). The primary importance of the TIP is that, in most instances, projects must be included on the TIP to be eligible for state and federal grant programs. The TIP identifies secured or reasonably expected revenues and expenditures for each of the projects included in the TIP. Typically, projects listed in the first three years of the document are shown as having secured funding while projects in years 4, 5, and 6 can be partially or completely un-funded. He reviewed the projects to be added and removed from the updated TIP. The projects that have been removed are completed.

Council reviewed the various projects that have been added to the 2016-2021 TIP.

C. 10-Year Economic Development Strategic Plan RFP - 15 Minute Presentation /15 Min Q&A (Lein/Tate)
Overview briefing of the DRAFT 10-Year Economic Development Strategic Plan Request for Proposals.

Economic Development Manager Lein and Assistant Director Tate provided Council with a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) for a 10-year Economic Development Strategic Plan. Manager Lein explained the components the Economic Development Strategic Plan will consider.

Assistant Director Tate explained the strategies and action items that went into the RFP. He explained the Economic Development Strategic Plan will move past the policy level into the strategic planning of economic development. They also reviewed the implementation schedule for the Strategic Plan.

Councilmember Wagner requested additional focus on the global trade aspect.

Councilmember Osborne requested staff ensure the Comprehensive Plan is updated to match the adopted Economic Development Strategic Plan.

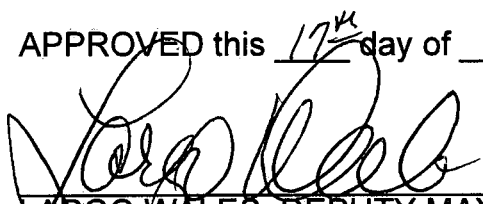
IV. OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

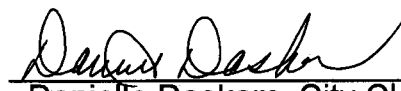
Deputy Mayor Holman reminded everyone that June 5th is the 124th Birthday Celebration for the City of Auburn and June 7th is the opening day of the Auburn International Farmers Market.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

APPROVED this 17th day of July, 2017.


LARGO WALES, DEPUTY MAYOR


Danielle Daskam, City Clerk