



**Special City Council Meeting
April 3, 2014 - 9:00 AM
Wesley Homes Conference Room
MINUTES
Auburn City Council Retreat**

I CALL TO ORDER

The Auburn City Council met in a special session on April 3 and 4, 2014 in order to conduct a Council Retreat. The session was conducted at Wesley Homes, 32049 109th Pl SE, Auburn. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mayor Nancy Backus and the following Councilmembers were present: Rich Wagner, Bill Peloza, Yolanda Trout, Wayne Osborne, John Holman, and Claude DaCorsi. Councilmember Largo Wales did not attend.

Directors and staff members present included City Attorney Daniel B Heid, Finance Director Shelley Coleman, Community Development and Public Works Director Kevin Snyder, Interim Human Resources Director Rob Roscoe, Director of Administration Michael Hursh, Innovation and Technology Director Ron Tiedeman, Chief of Police Bob Lee, Park, Arts and Recreation Director Daryl Faber, Planning Services Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain, Executive Assistant Tamie Bothell, Council Secretary Antoinette Early, and Deputy City Clerk Shawn Campbell.

II DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Auburn City Council Retreat

Director Snyder explained the retreat is meant to be informal to allow Council to talk openly, giving thoughts and ideas on each subject. Each day will be broken down into several roundtable discussions with specific topics.

The Mayor and Council discussed concerns Council has including working with a new Mayor, communication between Mayor and Council and new Councilmembers understanding the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mayor Backus explained she wants to ensure open communication between the Mayor, Council and staff. She requested any direction of staff time or work be directed through the Mayor's office.

Mayor Backus outlined her expectations for Council:

* Council will not act independent of Administration by giving presentations or representing the City without having been

requested to do so by the Mayor

- * The Mayor directs the workflow of City staff and resource allocations.
- * Council will not make official communications without the full support of Council.
- * Both the Mayor and Council trust each other

Council outlined their goals for Mayor

- * Both the Mayor and Council trust each other
- * Council is able to meet with Mayor easily
- * The Mayor set up training sessions for email and outlook creating calendar standards.
- * The Mayor have transparent open communication
- * The Mayor have frequent contact with state delegations and update Council as appropriate

The Mayor, Council and Directors discussed what the current team culture is and what they would like it to be. Council asked staff to compile the data and bring it back the full Council with a compact that all Councilmembers and Mayor would agree too

The Mayor, Council and Directors broke up into small groups to discuss the City's strengths, weaknesses, assets and threats (SWAT).

Mayor, Council and Directors discussed options and ideas for long term growth of Auburn. They discussed the perception of Auburn, building the downtown and the need for economic development for both new and existing businesses

The Council adjourned at 4:00 p.m. to meet again on 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 4, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

The Council reconvened on April 4, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

The Mayor, Council and Directors discussed the current vision and mission statement for the City. Together they developed new vision and mission statements

Auburn's Vision Statement:

Your Auburn, your premier community with vibrant opportunities.

The Mayor, Council and Directors discussed the core values they have for the City. They developed a mission statement that met their core values.

City of Auburn's Mission Statement:

Provides a premier service oriented government that is attentive to the needs of our citizens and business community

The Mayor, Council and Directors discussed ideas regarding the strategic policy and priorities of the Council for the remainder of 2014. The Council priorities for the remainder of 2014 are

- * Establish safety emphasis zones for the perception of citizen safety
- * Explore the implementation of the Transportation Benefit District.
- * Establish priorities for the 2015 - 2016 Biennial Budget.
- * Create strategic innovative policies for across the board application

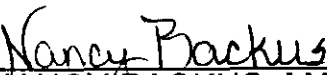
The Mayor, Council and Directors discussed what the Council expects from directors during the budget process. The Council requested directors have a list of what their plans are for the next two years, list the budget request in order of priority and have the Junior City Council involved in the budgeting process.

City Attorney Heid presented the Mayor and Council with an alternative to the current Council Committee structure. He proposed the Council transition from Council Committee meetings to Council study sessions. The Mayor and Council discussed the pro's and con's of study sessions. The topic was referred to the Council Operations Committee for further review.

III ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

APPROVED this 4th day of August, 2014


NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR


Shawn Campbell, Deputy City Clerk