

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL RETREAT

AMES, IOWA

JANUARY 22, 2022

The Ames City Council was called to order by Mayor John Haila at 8:34 a.m. on the 22nd day of January, 2022, in the Homewood Golf Course Clubhouse, 401 East 20th Street. City Council Members present were Bronwyn Beatty-Hansen, Amber Corrieri, Tim Gartin, and Anita Rollins. Gloria Betcher and Rachel Junck joined the meeting electronically. *Ex officio* Council Member Trevor Poundstone was absent. City Manager Steven Schainker, City Attorney Mark Lambert, Assistant City Manager Brian Phillips, and Assistant City Manager Deb Schildroth were also present.

COUNCIL GOAL UPDATE:

Mayor John Haila welcomed everyone to the goal-update retreat and reviewed the agenda. Mayor Haila led the Council through a discussion of apprehensions the Council Members had when they were first elected, and how they addressed them. Mr. Schainker led the Council Members through a review of effective decision-making practices. Mayor Haila discussed the roles of the City Council in interacting with various groups. Mr. Schainker then reviewed what the staff can do to help the City Council be more effective.

The meeting recessed at 10:23 a.m. and resumed at 10:33 a.m.

Assistant City Managers Brian Phillips and Deb Schildroth reviewed the previous values, goals, and tasks, the Planning Department program of work, and the referrals to City staff.

Council Members each shared what they believed to be the critical issues facing the community.

The meeting recessed at 11:45 a.m. and resumed at 12:19 p.m.

The Council Members discussed the issues submitted, organized them into groups, and agreed upon the following draft list of values and goals:

WE VALUE COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC

GOAL 1: By the end of 2023, develop, test, and evaluate strategies to improve community engagement, particularly with underrepresented groups

WE VALUE DIVERSE HOUSING OPTIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY

GOAL 1: Prioritize and complete the tasks outlined in Ames Plan 2040 that affect housing availability and affordability

WE VALUE A FUN, VIBRANT, AND HEALTHY COMMUNITY THAT ATTRACTS AND RETAINS PEOPLE

GOAL 1: Implement City programs (parks and recreation, library, etc.) and initiatives (partnerships with others) that educate, train, and engage regarding mental and physical wellness

GOAL 2: Establish a task force with community partners to identify steps each partner can take to improve workforce recruitment/retention

WE VALUE A DIVERSE, EQUITABLE, AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

GOAL 1: Develop a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan that identifies definitions and actionable strategies by the end of 2023

GOAL 2: Implement additional accessible and equitable transportation options for the community (transit, bike, pedestrian, micromobility, rideshare, and others)

WE VALUE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

GOAL 1: Receive the Climate Action Plan and prioritize and implement Council-approved tasks from it to maintain progress towards the adopted climate goal, and continue pursuing targets of opportunity to achieve greenhouse gas reduction

Mr. Schainker noted that City staff would develop proposed tasks to complete the goals, which will be presented to the City Council for approval at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Brian Phillips, Assistant City Manager

John A. Haila, Mayor

Diane R. Voss, City Clerk