



BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 9:00 AM

City Hall, 415 Broad Street, Montgomery - Watterson Boardroom

Board of Mayor and Aldermen

Mayor Paul W. Montgomery, Presiding

Vice Mayor Darrell Duncan

Alderman Morris Baker

Alderman Betsy Cooper

Alderman Colette George

Alderman Gary Mayes

Alderman James Phillips

I. CALL TO ORDER 9:00 am by Mayor Montgomery.

II. ROLL CALL by City Recorder/Treasurer Lisa Winkle.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Strategic Planning

The City Manager introduced the speaker, Julie Novak with Raftelis, and provided the background for today's strategic planning meeting. The BMA and staff members who were present introduced themselves and provided their expectations from today's workshop.

Mr. McCartt talked about the current Vision statement noting it was short and to the point and has made the city great for over 100 years. "Kingsport, a thriving and welcoming community to live, work and play." Some discussion followed as the board provided feedback on how the vision could be modified. Suggestions were to include a family component, safety and inspiration.

The staff in the room divided into seven groups to discuss the strategic focus areas and each BMA member visited each group over the next hour. After the small group sessions concluded, Ms. Novak led a discussion on how the original statements should be changed to reflect current suggestions.

NOTE: There was recess from 11:30-12:00 for lunch.

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Ms. Novak presented a revised vision statement as well as updated success statements for each strategic focus area. The language for these statements were adjusted based on the previous feedback from the small group sessions. There was considerable discussion. The final product will be presented to the community.

Each board member then presented priorities they felt were essential for Kingsport. These issues included housing, infrastructure, downtown revitalization, healthcare, education, community health, homelessness, blue zone designation, economic summit, leader in employee pay and compensation, library relocation, downtown baseball stadium, combat poverty, dental school, activities for kids and redevelopment. Discussion ensued throughout.

Ms. Novak facilitated a final discussion on how to integrate this plan into the community to get feedback and input from the citizens. This information will be gathered through a virtual platform that will be linked to the city’s website. Mr. McCartt stated there will also be opportunities at the library and the senior center to assist citizens who do not have access to the internet. Ms. Novak discusses the benefits of this method versus in person meetings and provided details on the types of questions that will be on the survey. Discussion ensued regarding this process, moving forward and finalizing the strategic plan.

IV. ADJOURN

Seeing no other business for consideration, Mayor Montgomery adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

ANGELA MARSHALL
Deputy City Recorder

PAUL W. MONTGOMERY
Mayor